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CITY OF PLYMOUTH

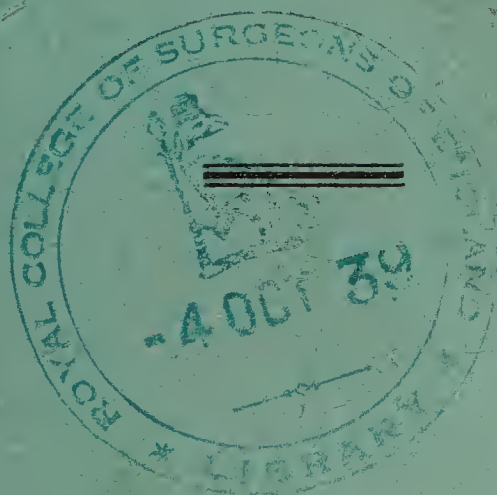


# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1938







CITY OF PLYMOUTH

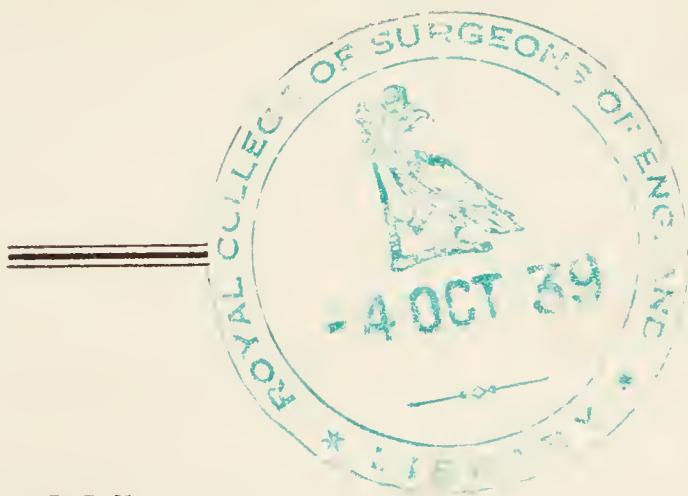


# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1938



T. PEIRSON, M.D., D.P.H.

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UNDERHILL (Plymouth) Ltd.,  
Printers,  
14 Frankfort Street.  
Works : Regent Street.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

The following Members of the City Council served on the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year :—

*Chairman* : Alderman F. D. Baxter.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor (Mrs.) Brock.

Councillors (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, (Mrs.) J. Marshall, H. Avery, A. H. Crimp, H. Porter, R. C. Ray, S. Robins, F. E. Sparrow, A. E. Taylor and A. E. Travers-Stubbs.

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## EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

*Chairman* : Alderman R. McDonald (January–October).

Councillor R. F. Axworthy (since November).

*Vice-Chairman* : Alderman G. P. Dymond, J.P., M.A.

Aldermen J. W. A. Campbell, J. L. Cornish, G. A. Daymond, H. Mason, J.P., R. R. Oke, and W. H. Weston.

Councillors A. H. Crimp, F. J. Collier (since November), D. L. Dean, C. S. King, E. J. Lavelle, J. H. Morgans, S. W. R. Pettett, H. G. Phillips, (Mrs.) J. Pook, G. P. Ross, A. L. Strachan, B.A., H. L. Spear (since November), A. G. H. Thatcher.

Mrs. B. Bull, Mrs. C. R. Cload, Mrs. F. Johns and Mrs. E. Lyne.

The Rev. T. D. Thomas, the Rev. J. H. McDonald.

Messrs. W. J. S. Morrell, V. Pedlar, H. W. Ralph and Lieut. N. J. P. Revington.

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## EDUCATION (MEDICAL TREATMENT) SUB-COMMITTEE.

*Chairman* : Alderman J. W. A. Campbell.

Alderman G. A. Daymond.

Councillors R. F. Axworthy, A. H. Crimp, J. H. Morgans, (Mrs.) J. Pook, A. L. Strachan, B.A., H. G. Phillips (since November), G. P. Ross (since November).

Mrs. C. R. Cload, Mrs. B. Bull and Mrs. Lyne. Mr. V. Pedlar,

Lieut. N. J. P. Revington, Mr. W. J. S. Morrell (since November).

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

### A. *Medical.* Whole-time.

T. Peirson, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health; General Medical Superintendent, City Hospitals; Port Medical Officer; School Medical Officer.

E. Hughes, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health; Senior Assistant Port Medical Officer; Medical Superintendent, Mount Gold Hospital.

H. T. Chatfield, M.C., M.B., D.P.H., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

D. F. Johnstone, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital; Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.

Marion Smellie, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Mildred A. Thynne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Iris V. I. Ward, M.D., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

M. S. Harvey, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant Port Medical Officer. (Commenced 3-1-38).

A. T. Bettinson, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent, Didworthy Sanatorium.

G. E. Larks, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Eng. and Edin.), Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital.

W. Warren, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Deputy Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital.

J. W. E. Cole, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Senior School Medical Officer. (Retired 24-3-38).

T. H. Harrison, M.B., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., Senior School Medical Officer. (Commenced duty 13-4-38).

G. B. Carter, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer.

Christina Thomson, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer.

J. A. McKenzie, M.B., Resident Medical Officer, Mount Gold Hospital. (Commenced 13th July, 1938).

Four Resident Medical Officers, City (General) Hospital.

One Resident Medical Officer, Isolation Hospital.



*Dental Surgeons.* Whole-time.

A. Maughan, M.C., L.D.S., E. R. Williams, L.D.S., Miss N. Johnson, B.D.S., Miss A. M. M. Stewart, L.D.S., F. J. Gray, L.D.S. (commenced 13-4-38).

*Medical.* Part-time.

*Consulting Physicians:—*

W. A. Lister, M.B., M.R.C.P. (London).

T. A. A. Hunter, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (London).

*Consulting Surgeons:—*

L. W. Innes, M.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

E. F. Wilson, F.R.C.S.

*Orthopædic Surgeons:—*

N. Capener, F.R.C.S.

C. M. Kennedy, F.R.C.S.

*Assistant Orthopædic Surgeon:—*

G. J. Lillie, F.R.C.S. (Commenced 14-10-38).

*Consulting Gynæcologists:—*

Mabel Ramsay, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.P.H.

J. W. G. H. Riddell, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

*Pathologist:—*

E. Wordley, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.P.

*Consulting Ophthalmologists:—*

W. H. Davis, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

C. B. F. Tivy, M.B., M.Ch.

W. S. Burr, M.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.O.M.S.

R. W. Payne, F.R.C.S. (Ed.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London), D.O.M.S.

*Consulting Laryngologists and Otologists:—*

C. S. C. Prance, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

R. Howarth, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.L.O.

S. W. Grimwade, M.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (London).

*Consulting Radiologist:—*

A. Craig Mooney, M.B., D.M.R.E.

*Consulting Anæsthetists:—*

S. G. Irlam, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.  
C. H. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.  
S. Hawkes, M.B.  
T. T. P. Murphy, M.D., B.SC.

*District Medical Officers:—*

Plymouth:

W. P. Hardwicke, L.M.S.S.A.  
T. M. Jamieson, B.A., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.).  
A. V. Ledger, M.D. (Brux.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Resigned  
1-3-38).  
C. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.

Devonport:

R. J. K. Fleming, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.  
J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.  
B. H. Stribling, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.  
G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse:

J. Simpson-White, O.B.E., M.B.

*Public Vaccinators:—*

Plymouth and Stonehouse:

W. H. Waterfield, L.R.C.P.I., L.M.

Devonport:

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.  
G. C. Sandford, M.D., C.M.

B. *Other Staff.*

*Chief Sanitary Inspector:—*

N. Ruse,\* F.S.I.A. (Retired 17-5-38).  
C. E. Sanderson, \*†‡ M.R.SAN.I. (Commenced 4-5-38).

*Sanitary Inspectors:—*

A. E. Collam\* (Fish Inspector).  
W. G. Collam.\*  
S. V. Edwards.\*†  
S. R. Fedrick.\*  
O. R. N. Hoskins.\*† (Commenced duty 29-6-38).

*Sanitary Inspectors:—contd.*

A. S. Kitt.\*†  
W. G. Lock.\*†‡  
W. E. McGinnes.\*  
W. S. Northmore.\*† (Factories, Milkshops and  
Dairies' Inspector).  
T. Painter.\* (Retired 3-7-38).  
W. T. Pessell.\*  
H. Smith.\*†  
L. N. Tope.\*†  
C. R. Varcoe.\*† (Disinfestation Inspector).  
W. S. Wales.\*† (Food and Drugs Act Inspector and  
Inspector of Milkshops and Dairies).

*Meat Inspectors:—*

J. Thorning.\*†‡  
P. A. Hawthorn.\*†

*Port Sanitary Inspector:—*

P. J. Bulleid.\*†

*Health Visitors:—*

M. Baxter§° (Supt. Health Visitor), K. Gillard§°||  
(resigned 30-9-38), M. K. Reid,§° F. A. Rendell,§°  
F. Woods,§° S. Dawkins,§° E. Burrows,§° F. Par-  
nell,§° F. Sprigg,§° I. M. Arscott,§° F. L. Gray,§°||  
K. M. Pethybridge,§°|| E. Appleyard,§°|| (commenced  
19-12-38), E. M. Arscott,§°|| T. E. Bell§°|| (commenced  
17-10-38). L. MacDonald°, M. Cox||, N. Cruse°  
(Tuberculosis Health Visitors).

*Nurses for General School Duties:—*

J. Bowden,° M. J. Fletcher§° (retired 12-10-38), E. J.  
Gale, M. H. Landells,° M. Le Prevost, G. M. Noble,§°  
(Part-time), E. M. B. Parkinson° (retired 2-2-38),  
G. M. Phillips,° F. Pritchard,§° G. M. Speakman,§°  
F. T. Spokes,° M. E. White.°

*Dental Nurse:—*

M. B. Roach.§°

*Dental Attendants:—*

D. H. Edwards (commenced 12-10-38), A. Powell  
J. Redman (commenced 3-2-38).

*School, Orthopædic and Remedial Clinics :—*

A. Lethbridge, C.S.M.M.G. (in Charge).  
E. M. B. Collier, C.S.M.M.G.  
A. R. Stevens, C.S.M.M.G.

*Municipal Midwives :—*

Assistant Supervisor of Midwives : I. Cruickshank.°§  
F. D. Bale§ (retired 5-5-38), E. T. Berry,§ N. J. Riley,°§  
(resigned 28-2-38), R. H. Straughan,§ E. A. Collam,§  
H. E. Warden,§ D. Weeks,§ E. M. Evel,§ E. J. Horn,§  
M. J. Trout,§ D. Perry,°§ (commenced 20-6-38),  
A. Hey,°§ (commenced 1-3-38), E. M. Watts,°§ (com-  
menced 7-11-38).

C. *Clerical Staff :—*

*Chief Clerk :—*

R. M. Lawson\*

*Chief Clerk, School Medical Department :—*

E. T. Perkins.

*Steward City Hospital :—*

F. J. Barrett.

*Senior Clerks :—*

G. R. Smith	....	....	Tuberculosis Dispensary
Miss O. May	....	....	Infectious Diseases
F. C. Thorning	....	...	Statistics, General Public Health
L. P. Howell	....	....	City Hospital
C. L. Marsh	....	....	Sanitary Inspection
Mrs. H. Leaver	....	....	City Hospital Almoner
Miss E. May	....	....	Maternity & Child Welfare
H. Chambers	....	....	Venereal Diseases

¶ 23 Clerks and Typists.

A part-time Veterinary Surgeon acts for the Corporation.

The Public Analyst, Mr. T. Tickle, F.I.C., of Exeter.

There are two Vaccination Officers in the City.

\* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

† Meat Inspector's Certificate.

‡ Sanitary Science Certificate.

|| Health Visitor's Certificate.

§ Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

¶ Includes staff at institutions, hospitals, etc. ° State Registered Nurse.



TO THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the Health Services of the City for the year 1938.

The contents and arrangement of the Report are based upon the requirements of the Minister of Health as laid down in Circular 1728.

During the early part of the year the Department was engaged upon the preparation of evidence for the City Boundary Extension Bill, and later in the year the detailed arrangements had to be made for the extending of the Health Services to the added area from 1st April, 1939.

The normal work of the Health Department has, however, become to a great degree overshadowed by the unfortunately necessary organisation of the Casualty Section of Air Raid Precautions. An entirely strange and novel task has been put upon the departmental machinery by this organisation, and although very properly no mention can be made in this Annual Report of Air Raid Precautions, a very large portion of the time of the Staff has been spent upon this work.

Mr. Norman Ruse retired on the 16th May, 1938, from the post of Chief Sanitary Inspector, after occupying it for 23 years. He gave faithful service to the Health Department over a period of 38 years.

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the loyal work of my Staff.

I am, my Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,



*Medical Officer of Health.*

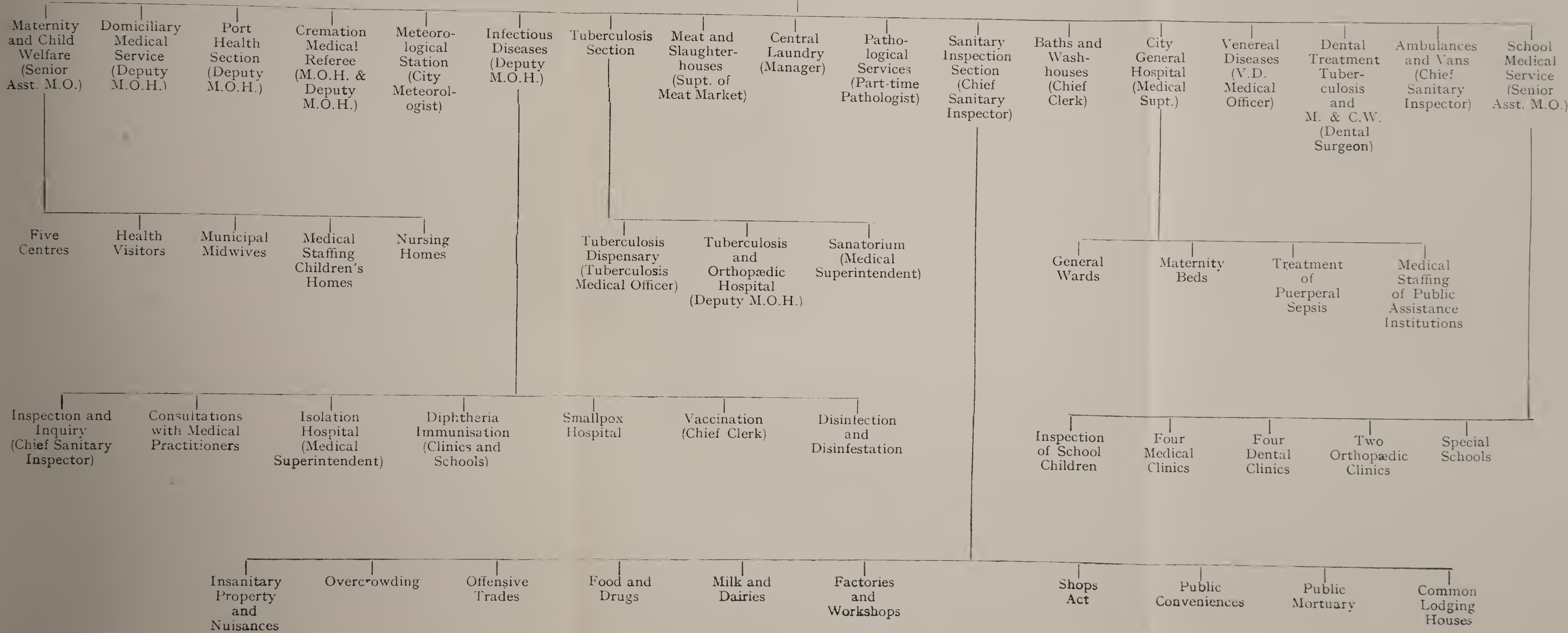
TOWN HALL, STONEHOUSE,  
PLYMOUTH.

*June, 1939.*



TABLE SHOWING THE SECTIONS OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT







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Statistical and Social Conditions of  
the Area

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# Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres) ... ..	5,711 (land and inland water)
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	
(mid-1938) ... ..	211,800
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books ... ..	38,157
Number of Un-inhabited houses in the City at 31.12.38 (including 102 scheduled for demolition) ...	574
Rateable value of the City ... ..	£1,781,614
Sum represented by a Penny rate ... ..	£6,988

*Social Conditions*, including the chief industries carried on in the area, and the extent of unemployment:—

Unemployed persons in the City—						
		<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
December, 1938 ...	5,075	1,008	58	124	6,265	
December, 1937 ...	5,567	899	111	194	6,771	
December, 1936 ...	6,354	1,022	163	208	7,747	
December, 1935 ...	7,157	1,057	214	230	8,658	
December, 1934 ...	7,996	1,186	195	120	9,497	

It will be seen that the figures for unemployed persons are again materially reduced and show a steady decline for the last five years. The decrease in the unemployment register is analogous to the increase in the numbers of those employed in H.M. Dockyard. The demand for building trades operatives is brisk.

The chief industries situated within the City are H.M. Dockyard, together with other Government (Naval and Military Barracks) establishments, building, Docks, including shipping of imports and exports, engineering, timber importing and extensive saw mills, ship and boat building, brass foundries, fishing, flour mills, breweries and distilleries, catering for visitors during the summer season, and distributive trades for the South-Western peninsula.

The following table is taken from “A Social Survey of Plymouth,” being a report of a survey undertaken in 1936 by a Committee with Lord Astor as Chairman:—

Percentage of all persons employed in occupations named—

						<i>Hotel</i>	
						<i>Boarding</i>	
	<i>Retail</i>				<i>Local</i>	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>House</i>
<i>Miscel-</i>	<i>Distri-</i>	<i>Dock-</i>	<i>Ser-</i>	<i>Trans-</i>	<i>Autho-</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>House</i>
<i>laneous</i>	<i>bution</i>	<i>yard</i>	<i>vices</i>	<i>port</i>	<i>rity</i>		<i>Restau-</i>
25.2	20.8	17.9	14.3	9.1	6.1	5.6	<i>rant</i>
							1.0

Live Births—	Total	M	F	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Legitimate	3,136	1,618	1,518	
Illegitimate	169	78	91	
	<hr/> 3,305	<hr/> 1,696	<hr/> 1,609	.....15.6

Stillbirths—				
Legitimate	132	77	55	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
Illegitimate	8	3	5	
	<hr/> 140	<hr/> 80	<hr/> 60	.....40.6

Deaths—	2,585	1,367	1,218	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 11.95
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Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list):—

				<i>Deaths</i>	<i>(live and still) Births</i>
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	2	0.58	
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes	...	5	1.45	
	Total	...	7	2.03	

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	53.25
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			51.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			88.75
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	327
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	26
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	12
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	6
Marriages	...	...	2,003

Persons in receipt of Poor Law relief (December 31st, 1938)—

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Persons receiving Out-door Relief	1,254	2,286	1,148	4,688
Children boarded-out	—	—	35	35
Children in the Children's Homes	—	—	64	64
Persons in Ford House Institution	154	106	—	260
Casuals in E. Stonehouse Institution	37	1	—	38
Persons in Institutions outside the City who are chargeable to the Public Assistance Committee	19	15	20	54
	<hr/> 1,464	<hr/> 2,408	<hr/> 1,267	<hr/> 5,139



# ACREAGE AND POPULATION—WARDS—1931 CENSUS.

	<i>Acreage (Land and Inland Water).</i>	<i>Persons.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Persons per Acre.</i>
City of Plymouth	5711	208182	102196	105986	36.5
Wards—					
Charles ... ..	137	10851	4842	6009	79.2
Compton ... ..	380	7610	3260	4350	20.0
Drake's ... ..	113	9644	4515	5129	85.3
Ford ... ..	157	9779	4603	5176	62.3
Friary ... ..	193	10888	5180	5708	56.4
Keyham ... ..	357	14271	8996	5275	40.0
Laira ... ..	321	11703	5354	6349	36.5
Molesworth ...	312	14123	6649	7474	45.3
Mount Edgcumbe	180	10024	5112	4912	55.7
Mutley ... ..	265	8472	3544	4928	32.0
Nelson ... ..	249	11047	5419	5628	44.4
Pennycross ...	585	13268	6148	7120	22.6
St. Andrew's ...	179	7719	3478	4241	43.1
St. Aubyn ... ..	268	14944	8723	6221	55.8
St. Budeaux ...	960	6029	3073	2956	6.3
St. Peter's ... ..	105	11605	5601	6004	110.5
Stoke ... ..	433	6797	3036	3761	15.7
Sutton ... ..	297	9301	4646	4655	31.3
Valletort ... ..	87	8814	4484	4330	101.3
Vintry ... ..	133	11293	5533	5760	84.9

ST. BUDEAUX  
P. 6  
B.R. 41.3  
D.R. 20.5  
I.M. 68

FORD 62  
P. 62  
B.R. 14.4  
D.R. 10.0  
I.M. 70

MOLESWORTH  
P. 45  
B.R. 17.2  
D.R. 13.5  
I.M. 24

KEYHAM  
P. 40  
B.R. 14.9  
D.R. 9.0  
I.M. 46

NELSON  
P. 44  
B.R. 16.5  
D.R. 9.9  
I.M. 32

ST. AUBYN  
P. 55  
B.R. 12.9  
D.R. 8.8  
I.M. 51

PENNYCROSS  
P. 22  
B.R. 15.9  
D.R. 14.0  
I.M. 61

STOKE  
P. 15  
B.R. 14.8  
D.R. 14.4  
I.M. 39

MUTLEY  
P. 32  
B.R. 12.3  
D.R. 13.9  
I.M. 19

DRAKE  
P. 85  
B.R. 15.7  
D.R. 13.6  
I.M. 59

ST. PETER  
P. 110  
B.R. 14.9  
D.R. 14.9  
I.M. 91

ST. ANDREW  
P. 101  
B.R. 12.4  
D.R. 11.3  
I.M. 109

VALLETORT  
P. 43  
B.R. 14.8  
D.R. 10.7  
I.M. 78

CHARLES  
P. 79  
B.R. 11.5  
D.R. 11.1  
I.M. 16

VINTRY  
P. 84  
B.R. 17.0  
D.R. 12.1  
I.M. 52

FRIARY  
P. 56  
B.R. 14.6  
D.R. 14.0  
I.M. 18

COMPTON  
P. 20  
B.R. 17.7  
D.R. 13.1  
I.M. 22

SUTTON  
P. 31  
B.R. 12.2  
D.R. 10.3  
I.M. 43

MT. BATTEN

ORESTON

POMPHLETT

THE SOUND

DRAKE'S ISLAND

CREMYLL

MOUNT  
EDGECUMBE

TURNCHAPEL

CHELSON  
MEADOW

RIVER  
PLYM

LAIRA

THE  
HAMOAZE

TORPOINT

WARD MAP 1938.  
(Density of Population - Persons per Acre:- P  
Birth Rate:- B.R.; Death Rate:- D.R.;  
Infant Mortality Rate:- I.M.)



TABLE SHOWING THE POPULATION, BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATES, MATERNAL MORTALITY, Etc., IN 18 LARGE TOWNS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

NAME OF TOWN.	Population as estimated by the Registrar General Mid-1938	Compara- bility Factor	Per 1,000 Population		Death Rate as adjusted by Factor	DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—										Tuberculosis		Infantile Mortality Rate	MATERNAL MORTALITY (per 1,000 Total Births)		
			Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate		Small- pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Para- typhoid	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Influenza	From Sepsis	From Other Causes				Total		
																Pulmonary	Other Forms				
1. BIRMINGHAM ...	1,041,000	1.10	16.6	10.88	11.99	—	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.07	—	0.21	0.15	0.70	0.08	61.0	0.61	2.10	2.71		
2. BRADFORD ...	288,700	1.00	13.51	13.78	13.78	—	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.08	—	0.08	0.09	0.53	0.10	58.0	0.49	3.63	4.15		
3. BRISTOL ...	415,500	0.98	14.58	11.71	11.4	—	0.06	0.002	0.004	0.05	—	0.024	0.102	0.56	0.096	42.0	0.64	2.54	3.18		
4. CARDIFF ...	223,110	1.06	15.79	11.97	12.68	—	—	0.004	0.05	0.03	—	0.05	0.08	0.86	0.13	52.0	1.35	2.44	3.79		
5. COVENTRY ...	213,000	1.21	17.0	9.8	11.8	—	0.009	0.009	0.014	0.019	0.005	0.080	0.160	0.648	0.094	56.0	0.828	1.932	2.76		
6. EDINBURGH ...	469,448	—	16.1	12.7	—	—	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.09	—	0.12	0.04	0.61	0.15	61.0	2.25	3.18	5.43		
7. KINGSTON-ON-HULL	318,700	1.10	18.1	12.2	13.4	—	0.09	0.01	0.08	0.13	0.00	0.17	0.12	0.77	0.12	69.0	0.33	2.34	2.67		
8. LEEDS ...	494,000	1.07	15.4	12.7	13.5	—	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.07	—	0.19	0.06	0.68	0.12	64.0	0.25	1.51	1.76		
9. LEICESTER ...	263,300	1.02	14.71	11.21	11.43	—	0.004	—	0.034	0.125	0.004	0.065	0.076	0.665	0.087	45.9	1.25	1.25	2.5		
10. LIVERPOOL ...	827,400	1.15	18.7	12.3	14.1	—	0.13	0.01	0.12	0.17	0.01	0.14	0.08	0.77	0.12	73.0	0.65	1.31	1.96		
11. MANCHESTER ...	747,318	1.14	14.75	12.35	14.08	—	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.07	—	0.12	0.11	0.83	0.14	68.84	1.39	2.86	4.25		
12. NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	291,300	1.13	16.1	12.4	14.0	—	0.07	—	0.01	0.08	—	0.18	0.08	0.85	0.15	66.0	1.03	2.27	3.30		
13. NOTTINGHAM ...	278,300	1.03	15.57	12.72	13.10	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.01	—	1.0	0.07	0.69	0.13	71.0	0.44	1.33	1.77		
14. PLYMOUTH ...	211,800	0.98	15.6	12.2	11.95	—	0.12	—	0.05	0.07	—	0.02	0.02	0.63	0.12	53.25	0.58	1.45	2.03		
15. PORTSMOUTH ...	258,400	0.99	14.73	12.21	12.09	—	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.06	—	0.19	0.11	0.63	0.11	60.15	0.25	2.03	2.28		
16. SHEFFIELD ...	520,000	1.13	15.662	11.358	12.835	—	0.052	0.002	0.019	0.056	0.002	0.031	0.085	0.498	0.083	50.0	1.54	1.31	2.85		
17. SOUTHAMPTON. ...	180,100	0.99	16.57	11.86	11.74	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.03	0.005	0.055	0.03	0.61	0.076	50.6	1.00	1.34	2.34		
18. STOKE-ON-TRENT ...	272,000	1.22	16.3	11.3	14.2	—	0.033	0.029	0.015	0.118	—	0.078	0.085	0.665	0.132	52.0	1.81	3.38	5.19		





[illegible]





# CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

TAKEN AT PLYMOUTH HOE DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	1938	1937	<i>Average.</i>
<i>Temperature—</i>			
Maximum ...	78.1 (Aug 2)	81.1 (August 6)	—
Minimum ...	22.0 (Dec. 20)	25.8 (Feb. 28)	—
Mean ...	52.0	51.8	51.0
Daily Range ...	10.3	11.0	10.8
Relative Humidity ...	80%	81%	84%
<i>Earth Temperature—</i>			
Earth 1 ft. deep ...	52.7	52.8	52.0
Earth 4 ft. deep ...	53.4	53.2	52.2
Minimum on Grass ...	17.2 (Dec. 21)	17.5 (Mar. 24)	—
<i>Sea Temperature—</i>			
Mean ...	53.6	54.3	52.9
<i>Rainfall—</i>			
Total during Year ...	37.28"	41.36"	36.34"
Greatest daily fall ...	1.68" (Nov. 25)	0.97" (Oct. 24)	—
Number wet days ...	182	184	190
<i>Sunshine—</i>			
Total hours ...	1555.8	1549.9	1668.7
Highest daily amount	14.9 (June 21)	14.2 (May 31)	—
Sunless days ...	70	67	61
<i>Wind—</i>			
Prevailing direction	W.S.W.	S.S.W.	S.W.
Highest velocity ... (Gust)	77 m.p.h.	73 m.p.h.	—



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## General Provision of Health Services

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## General Provision of Health Services

### Laboratory Facilities.

The following tables show the bacteriological and pathological work carried out for the City at the Prince of Wales's (Greenbank) Hospital, Plymouth.

Briefly, the nature of these examinations is as follows:—

Sputums for T.B.	...	...	...	...	2133
Swabs for Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	6326
Rats for Plague	...	...	...	...	47
Bacteriological counts on Milks, Shellfish, Waters	...	...	...	...	1554
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	...	87
For Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	185
Urines	...	...	...	...	207
Puerperal Swabs	...	...	...	...	524
Animal inoculations	...	...	...	...	36
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	42
Sections (Mount Gold Hospital)	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	159
V.D. Examinations	...	...	...	...	7408
Total					18720

As compared with 18,143 in 1937.

Further examinations, as below, were made for the City Hospital:—

Sputums for T.B.	...	...	...	...	516
Microscopical Examinations on morbid tissues	...	...	...	...	209
Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	...	1570
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	1273
Biochemical Examinations	...	...	...	...	1782
Wasserman and Kahns	...	...	...	...	924
For Gonococci	...	...	...	...	106
Zondek Ascheims	..	..	...	...	40
Agglutinations	...	...	...	...	36
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	21
Total					6477

**Ambulance  
Facilities.**

Cases of infectious diseases are removed by the two motor ambulances of the Public Health Department. Non-infectious cases, including street accidents, maternity patients and tuberculosis patients, are dealt with by the St. John Ambulance Association, which possesses nine motor ambulances and provides an adequate service.

**Home  
Nursing.**

There are no changes to report in the arrangements whereby the Alexandra Nursing Association and the Three Towns Nursing Association undertake home nursing.

**Clinic and  
Treatment  
Centres.**

1. *Infant Welfare Centres.*  
Town Hall, Stonehouse—4 sessions weekly.  
Beaumont Hut—5 sessions weekly.  
Devonport Park Centre—3 sessions weekly.  
Wolseley Hall Centre, Swilly—2 sessions weekly.  
St. Budeaux Clinic—1 session weekly.
2. *Specialist Aural Clinic* (pre-School and School Children).  
Princess Square School Medical Clinic—6 sessions monthly.
3. *Specialist Ophthalmic Clinic* (pre - School and School Children).  
Princess Square School Medical Clinic—4 sessions weekly.
4. *Ante-Natal Clinics.*  
Town Hall, Stonehouse—2 sessions weekly.  
Beaumont Hut —2 sessions weekly.  
Devonport Park Centre—2 sessions weekly.  
Wolseley Hall Centre —2 sessions weekly.  
City Hospital —2 sessions weekly.
5. *Post-Natal Clinic.*  
City Hospital—1 session fortnightly.
6. *Consultant Obstetric Clinic.*  
City Hospital—1 session weekly.
7. *Tuberculosis Dispensary.*  
Beaumont House Dispensary—  
Adults, 2 afternoon sessions weekly.  
Adults, 1 evening session weekly.  
Children, 1 session weekly.  
Contacts, 1 session weekly.  
Special treatment, 2 sessions weekly.  
Prince of Wales's Hospital (Devonport Section), 1 session weekly.

8. *Treatment Centre (Venereal Diseases).*  
City Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.  
For Males—4 sessions weekly (irrigation daily).  
For Females—4 sessions weekly.
9. *Orthopædic Clinic.*  
Mount Gold Hospital—1 session weekly.
10. *Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.*  
Stonehouse Town Hall—1 session weekly.  
Devonport Park Centre—1 session weekly.  
Beaumont Hut—1 session weekly.
11. *Dental Clinic.*  
Beaumont House—Daily.

**Hospitals** *Prince of Wales's Hospital.* The only change of any note during the year was the giving of a grant of £3,500 by the City Council to the Prince of Wales's Hospital during the financial year 1938-39, subject to the agreement to provide (*inter alia*) that—

- (1) the question of the necessity for and the amount of such financial assistance shall be subject to annual revision by the Council;
- (2) the Hospital Board of Management shall not, without the prior approval of the Council, increase or diminish accommodation or facilities provided for patients or staff so as to effect the financial position of the Hospital;
- (3) the Council shall be adequately represented on the Board of Management of the Hospital; and
- (4) the accounts of the Hospital shall be submitted to the Council in respect of each year during which a grant is made.

**Poor Law  
Medical  
Out-Relief**

On the 1st April, 1938, a rearrangement of the Medical Relief Districts came into effect. The number has been reduced to eight, and they are now co-terminous with the outdoor relief districts, and as far as possible the work has been evenly distributed. The salaries of the District Medical Officers were made uniform at the same time.

A meeting of the medical profession of the City declined to adopt the "open choice" method and the service continues as previously, on the basis of eight part-time Medical Officers.

The following table shows the work done by the District Medical Officers:—

<i>District.</i>	<i>No. of visits to Patients' Homes.</i>	<i>Attendances at Surgery during the year 1938.</i>
1	689	1274
2	472	1552
3	458	1856
4	298	815
5	665	1315
6	900	1644
7	858	898
8	658	357
	<hr/> 4998	<hr/> 9711

A medical officer from the City General Hospital visits the Public Assistance Institution, Ford House, every day, and also in case of emergency.

The Stoke House Children's Home is attended by a medical officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, and the Scattered Homes by a member of the School Medical Staff.

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Maternity and Child Welfare

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# Maternity and Child Welfare

## REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

**Births.** The live birth-rate for 1938 is 15.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is 1.0 higher than the 1937 figure, and also .5 higher than the 1938 figure for England and Wales, which is 15.1. The actual number of live births was 232 more than in the previous year, and the estimated increase of the population was 1,340. This is the highest birth-rate recorded since 1934.

		<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Registered.</i>	<i>Allocated.</i>
Total live births (legitimate and illegitimate)	...	3590	3628	3305
Total stillbirths (legitimate and illegitimate)	...	157	157	140
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total births	...	3747	3785	3445
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Illegitimate births: live	...	122	124	169*
stillbirths	...	8	8	8
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	130	132	177
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

\* Note marked increase of allocated illegitimate live births.

No. of births notified by doctors and parents	586
No. of births notified by midwives ...	3161
	<hr/>
	3747
	<hr/>

# PLACE OF CONFINEMENT.

Own home by municipal midwife	...	...	...	549
Own home by municipal midwife with doctor	...	...	...	136
Own home by private midwife	...	...	...	295
Own home by private midwife with doctor	...	...	...	135
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife	...	...	...	410
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife with doctor	...	...	...	129
Own home by Alexandra district midwife	...	...	...	117
Own home by Alexandra district midwife with doctor	...	...	...	67
T.T.N.A. maternity home by midwife	...	...	...	286
T.T.N.A. maternity home by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	134
Alexandra maternity home by midwife	...	...	...	495
Alexandra maternity home by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	129
City Hospital by midwife	...	...	...	394
City Hospital by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	110
Private nursing homes—doctor	...	...	...	151
Private nursing homes—midwife	...	...	...	4
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	105
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank	...	...	...	52
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Devonport	...	...	...	1
Not known	...	...	...	48
TOTAL				3747

## PLYMOUTH BIRTH RATES FROM 1914.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
1914	23.7	1924	18.16
1915	19.9	1925	18.1
1916	21.6	1926	17.2
1917	19.3	1927	16.5
1918	19.1	1928	17.0
1919	21.6	1929	16.5
1920	26.3	1930	15.9
1921	21.2	1931	16.4
1922	19.6	1932	15.59
1923	19.4	1933	15.67
Average for 10 years	21.17	Average for 10 years	16.7
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
1934	15.7	1934	15.7
1935	15.05	1935	15.05
1936	14.8	1936	14.8
1937	14.6	1937	14.6
1938	15.6	1938	15.6

## 1937 BIRTH RATES FOR THE TEN LARGEST TOWNS.

London	13.4
Glasgow	19.8
Birmingham	16.3
Liverpool	19.3
Manchester	14.3
Sheffield	15.4
Leeds	14.8
Edinburgh	15.8
Bristol	14.5
Hull	18.2
The 1936 birth-rate for England and Wales was	14.8
The 1937 birth-rate for England and Wales was	14.9
The 1938 birth-rate for England and Wales was	15.1

**Stillbirths.** The stillbirth rate is 40.6 per 1,000 allocated births, and 0.66 per 1,000 of the population. This is 3.6 per 1,000 higher than last year's rate and 0.06 higher than the rate for England and Wales, which is 0.60 per 1,000 of the population.

#### STILLBIRTH RATE.

Year	England and Wales		Plymouth	
	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population
1932	41.0	—	45.0	—
1933	41.0	—	37.5	—
1934	40.0	—	35.5	—
1935	41.0	0.62	38.8	0.62
1936	—	0.61	37.72	0.58
1937	—	0.60	36.97	0.56
1938	—	0.60	40.6	0.66

The following summary is based on the investigation of 141 cases:—

##### Age of mother.

15-19 years, inclusive	...	...	...	5
20-24 „	„	...	...	25
25-29 „	„	...	...	44
30-34 „	„	...	...	38
35-39 „	„	...	...	19
40 and over	...	...	...	7
Not known	...	...	...	3
				141

##### Parity.

1st pregnancy	...	...	...	77*
2nd „	...	...	...	26
3rd „	...	...	...	12
4th „	...	...	...	2
5th „	...	...	...	4
6th „	...	...	...	2
7th „	...	...	...	7
8th „	...	...	...	5
9th „	...	...	...	2
12th „	...	...	...	2
13th „	...	...	...	2
				141

\* Note high proportion of first pregnancies.

##### Duration of pregnancy.

40 weeks	...	...	...	73
36-39 „	...	...	...	29
32-35 „	...	...	...	13
28-31 „	...	...	...	23
Post mature	...	...	...	3
				141

##### Place of delivery.

Own home, B.B.A.	...	...	...	7
Own home with doctor and midwife	...	...	...	34
Own home with midwife only	...	...	...	16
City Hospital	...	...	...	35
Maternity Homes (Alexandra 23, T.T.N.A. 18)	...	...	...	41
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	6
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	2
				141

<i>Nature of delivery.</i>				
Spontaneous (7 B.B.A.)	...	...	...	81
Instrumental	...	...	...	32
Bimanual	...	...	...	24
Cæsarean	...	...	...	2
Bougie induction	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 141
<i>Presentation.</i>				
L.O.A. or R.O.A.	...	...	...	93
L.O.P., R.O.P. and P.O.P. (6)	...	...	...	11
Breech	...	...	...	23
Shoulder	...	...	...	2
Transverse	...	...	...	2
Footling	...	...	...	3
Brow	...	...	...	3
Not known	...	...	...	4
				<hr/> 141
<i>Standard of living.</i>				
Fair to very good	...	...	...	98
Poor	...	...	...	36
Not known	...	...	...	7
				<hr/> 141
<i>Pre-natal supervision.</i>				
By doctor	...	...	...	38
By midwife only	...	...	...	15
Clinic—M. & C.W.	...	...	...	22
City Hospital	...	...	...	11
Alexandra	...	...	...	22
T.T.N.A.	...	...	...	26
None	...	...	...	5
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 141
<i>Causes.</i>				
Toxæmia	...	...	...	16
Placenta prævia	...	...	...	5
A.P.H. (not classified)	...	...	...	6
Abnormalities of cord—				
Prolapse	...	...	...	6
Round neck	...	...	...	7
Knots in cord	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 15
Post-maturity	...	...	...	2
Foetal deformity—				
Anencephaly	...	...	...	5
Hydrocephaly	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 8
Disproportion	...	...	...	2
Breech	...	...	...	7
P.O.P.	...	...	...	6
Uterine inertia	...	...	...	1
Prolonged labour	...	...	...	5
Malpresentation (brow 2)	...	...	...	5
Dystocia	...	...	...	5
Contracted pelvis—				
Craniotomy	...	...	...	2
Induction	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 3



Precipitate labour	...	...	...	...	1
B.B.A.	...	...	...	...	1
Poor development	...	...	...	...	1
Following ante-natal version			...	...	1
Intracranial hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	1
Following early rupture of membranes				...	1
Following a fall	...	...	...	...	4
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes of mother		...	...	...	1
Placental insufficiency	...	...	...	...	6
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	7
No obvious cause (macerated 23)		...	...	...	30

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141

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*Additional information.*

Death of foetus during labour	...	...	...	in 52 cases.
Labour prolonged over 24 hours	...	...	...	in 16 „
History of previous stillbirth	...	...	...	in 22 „
Maceration	...	...	...	in 56 „
Foetus well developed and in good condition at term	...	...	...	in 45 „
L.O.A. and R.O.A.	...	...	15	
L.O.P., R.O.P. and P.O.P.	...	...	6	
Breech	...	...	5	
Brow	...	...	1	
Impacted shoulders	...	...	1	
Cord round neck	...	...	4	
Prolapsed cord	...	...	5	
Forceps	...	...	4	
Footling	...	...	1	
Craniotomy	...	...	1	
B.B.A.	...	...	2	
Known to be illegitimate	...	...	...	in 4 cases

Approximately just over 50% of this series of stillbirths went to term, but of these only 60% were well developed and in good condition at term, the remaining 40% showing maceration to a greater or less degree.

Taking the whole series of 141 stillbirths, maceration was noted in 56, whereas 52 died during labour.

**Infant Mortality.** (See Table on page 48A, and Chart on page 48.)  
Number of deaths under one year: 176 (includes four inward transfers).

Infant Mortality rate: 53.25 per 1,000 allocated live births.

The following table shows the relative proportion of deaths due to infectious, respiratory and digestive diseases since 1930:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Infectious Diseases</i>	<i>Respiratory Diseases</i>	<i>Diseases of Digestive Tract</i>
1930	5.0 per cent	22.0 per cent	11.0 per cent
1931	2.6 per cent	30.0 per cent	6.0 per cent
1932	8.0 per cent	18.0 per cent	6.8 per cent
1933	5.3 per cent	22.8 per cent	4.2 per cent
1934	12.0 per cent	19.0 per cent	6.9 per cent
1935	3.8 per cent	15.8 per cent	9.28 per cent
1936	11.1 per cent	26.9 per cent	7.6 per cent
1937	2.8 per cent	25.5 per cent	4.2 per cent
1938	13.0 per cent	22.7 per cent	3.4 per cent

Deaths from neo-natal and pre-natal causes account for 48% of the total, a slight relative decrease compared with last year's figure of 50%, but still a much higher figure than one would like to see.

From the aspect of infant welfare work, it is encouraging to note that deaths from digestive diseases are steadily decreasing and account for only 3.4% of the total. Deaths from respiratory diseases, however, remain high, and deaths from infectious diseases are greater than they have been for many years past. There were actually 11 infant deaths (10 males, 1 female) from measles alone, and 8 from whooping cough.

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Plymouth</i>
1933	32	33.1
1934	31	28.4
1935	30	33.6
1936	30.16	25.1
1937	30	21.4
1938	—	26.3

Total number of deaths under one month: 87, i.e., 49.4 per cent., an increase of 2.6 per cent. on last year's figure. The neo-natal mortality rate is 26.3 per 1,000 live births. Although this is 4.9 above last year's rate, it is still a low figure compared with that of England and Wales, which in 1937 was 30.

The illegitimate infant mortality rate is 88.7 per 1,000 illegitimate live births, twice last year's figure.

	<i>Legitimate.</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>
No. of births ... ..	3136	169
No. of deaths ... ..	161	15
Infant mortality per 1,000	51.3	88.7

The following table is of interest in that it shows clearly how the majority of deaths under 1 year occurred in the first half of the year, and especially in the first quarter.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Jan.— March Quarter</i>	<i>April— June Quarter</i>	<i>July— Sept. Quarter</i>	<i>Oct.— Dec. Quarter</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Measles ... ..	8	3	—	—	11
Whooping Cough ...	3	3	1	1	8
Tuberculosis of Nervous System ... ..	1	—	—	1	2
Syphilis ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Meningitis ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
Convulsions ... ..	2	2	1	2	7
Bronchitis ... ..	2	1	—	—	3
Pneumonia ... ..	20	5	3	7	35
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	1	2
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	2	1	3	—	6
Congenital Malformation	4	4	3	5	16
Congenital Debility ...	3	4	2	—	9
Icterus ... ..	—	—	1	1	2
Premature Birth ...	10	15	7	4	36
Injury at Birth ... ..	—	2	1	—	3
Disease of Umbilicus ...	—	—	2	—	2
Atelectasis ... ..	8	3	3	3	17
Other causes ... ..	6	1	4	4	15
TOTAL ... ..	71	45	31	29	176

**Infantile Diarrhœa.** Six babies were certified as dying in Plymouth from this cause during 1938. Four of these died after an acute illness lasting only a few days, two being healthy breast-fed babies aged 3 weeks and 3 months, and two healthy babies of 5 months and 8 months fed on boiled milk. All four lived in good clean homes. The remaining two, both aged 2 months, were delicate babies fed on dried milk, and their illness was prolonged over two to three weeks.

It is difficult to attribute acute gastro-enteritis in infants to milk *per se*, and reassuring to note how few deaths there are from this cause. There were no deaths from enteritis in children aged 1–2 years.

There was one outward and one inward transfer, making the Plymouth death-rate 1.8 per 1,000 births, which compares very favourably with the rate of 5.5 for England and Wales.

# DEATHS OF CHILDREN BETWEEN 1 and 5 YEARS OLD.

(See table on page 6B.)

The following table shows the number of deaths occurring in children aged 1-5 during the past three years, and during a similar period ten years ago. The decrease is more marked in the 1-2 year old group, but is satisfactory in both.

	1-2 YEARS OLD						2-5 YEARS OLD					
	1926	1927	1928	1936	1937	1938	1926	1927	1928	1936	1937	1938
Measles	7	1	29	2	-	6	3	-	20	2	-	4
Whooping cough	5	1	1	2	1	4	2	5	2	3	1	-
Diphtheria	1	-	-	1	1	-	17	8	7	15	7	7
Tuberculous diseases	4	1	4	2	4	-	4	8	5	6	2	4
Bronchitis and pneumonia	37	23	31	9	6	10	18	11	10	2	8	8
Other respiratory diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diarrhoea	7	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other digestive diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-
Other causes	21	9	9	10	7	6	9	14	16	9	12	9
TOTALS	82	39	76	28	19	26	53	47	60	37	35	33
Total for 3 year period	197	73	105	160	105	105	160	105	105	105	105	105



**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

No. Noti- fied	Where treated			Vision un- im- paired	Vision im- paired	Vision lost	Deaths
	Home	Royal Eye In- firmary	City Hospital				
18	10	3	3	18	—	—	—
		2 (combined)					

Thirteen cases were notified by general practitioners, and 5 by medical officers at Infant Welfare Centres. The date of onset was on or under 5 days in 10 cases, from 6 to 11 days in 6 cases, and over 15 days in 2 cases. Eleven cases occurred on the district (municipal midwives 5, T.T.N.A. midwives 4, Alexandra Home midwives 2), 3 in a maternity home, and 4 in the City Hospital.

Only 5 cases were at all severe, and 6 were very mild and well in a few days. One baby left Plymouth before treatment was completed, but, as far as is known, had no impairment of vision. In the remaining 17 there was no impairment of vision.

**Child Life Protection.** There has been no change in the services provided. All the Health Visitors act as Child Life Protection Officers and paid, in this connection, 429 home visits during the year. In addition to this, 57 foster-mothers, or would-be foster-mothers, were interviewed at the Town Hall, Stonehouse.

Comment was made in last year's Report on the difficulty of getting a sufficient number of the better type of foster-mother. This difficulty still exists. The unmarried mother, until she gets work, is seldom able to pay a foster-mother to look after her child. It would be most helpful to those engaged in this work if supplementary payments to foster-mothers could be guaranteed when required.

*Foster-parents.*

No. on Register, 1st January, 1938	...	...	66
New registrations during the year	...	...	15
			81
Removals from Register during the year	...	...	21
On Register at end of year	...	...	60

Notifications of change of address within Plymouth area	15
---	----

*Foster-children.*

No. on Register, 1st January, 1938	...	...	71
Notifications of children received during the year	...		47
			<hr/> 118

Removals from Register during the year—

Transfers to care of other foster-parents	...	8
Adopted	... ..	6
Over age	... ..	13
Returned to care of relatives	...	17
Removals to care of official organisations		4
Removals to outside areas	... ..	2

Total removals from Register	<hr/> 50
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On Register at end of the year	... ..	68
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**Health Visiting.** An additional full-time Health Visitor was appointed on 19th December, 1938, to take the place of the former part-time Health Visitor supplied by the Three Towns Nursing Association, so that at the end of the year the staff consisted of 13 Health Visitors and one Superintendent, whose work is entirely clinical and administrative.

Summary of visits paid during the year :—

Births	... ..	3076
1st year visits	... ..	9797
1st visits, 1-5 years	... ..	301
Re-visits, 1-5 years	... ..	23281
1st ante-natal visits	... ..	530
Re-ante-natal visits	... ..	730
Visits <i>re</i> infectious diseases	... ..	644
Child life protection visits	... ..	429
Miscellaneous visits	... ..	955
		<hr/> 39743



The 644 visits in connection with infectious diseases are made up as follows :—

Ophthalmia neonatorum visits	...	...	...	52
Discharging eyes	„	...	...	43
Whooping-cough	„	...	...	159
Measles	„	...	...	351
Chicken-pox	„	...	...	24
Puerperal pyrexia	„	...	...	2
Enteritis	„	...	...	8
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	...	...	...	1
Pemphigus	...	...	...	4
				<hr/>
				644
				<hr/>

At the end of the year there were 12,003 children under five years of age for 13 Health Visitors to visit; 3,004 being under one year.

One hundred and eighty-seven sanitary defects were reported by Health Visitors, and 208 visits were paid in connection with the home help service. Sixty-five homes were visited on behalf of the City Hospital Midwifery Department, in order to furnish the hospital with reports on the home conditions. During the year a total of 124 homes were reported by Health Visitors as being unsuitable for confinement. As a result of reports sent in by Health Visitors, 84 families were recommended to the Medical Officer of Health for rehousing. By the end of the year 10 of these had been rehoused.

*Defective Children.*

Of the children born in 1933, 18 were defective from birth and 58 became defective before reaching the age of five. This total is 5 more than that for the 1932–37 period group.

Data are summarised in the following table:—

DEFECTIVE CHILDREN, 1933-1938.

<i>Nature of Defect</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Cured</i>	<i>Improved</i>	<i>No improvement</i>	<i>No treatment</i>	<i>Still under treatment</i>
Rickets ...	17	13	3	1	3	2
Strabismus ...	33	2	28	3	4	28
Talipes ...	2	1	1	—	—	1
Tuberculosis (lung, 1 ; hip, 1 ; knee, 1)	3	—	3	—	—	3
Mentally defective ...	6	—	5	1	—	3
Prolonged otorrhœa ...	5	1	2	—	—	4
Spina bifida ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Monoplegia from birth ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Paralysis following A.P.M. ...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Injury to knee ...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital dislocation of hip ...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Defective vision of one eye, congenital	1	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital ptosis, one eyelid ...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Curvature of spine ...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Cleft palate ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Dumb ...	1	—	—	1	—	1

**Infant Welfare Centres**      Towards the middle of October, the Tuesday afternoon Infant Welfare session was reopened at the Devonport Park Centre, bringing the total number of weekly sessions held up to thirty-four.

The erection of a new St. Budeaux Centre has been unfortunately delayed, and our work there is still being carried on under difficulties in very unsuitable premises.

All thirty-four sessions are attended by one or more Health Visitors, and many also by voluntary workers.

Health Visitors have also attended 11 sessions of the Aural Clinic and 37 sessions of the Dental Clinic.

Forty-two children under five years who had at some time attended an Infant Welfare Centre, died during the year. One-third died in their own homes, the remainder in hospital, and the majority of these deaths were due to respiratory and infectious diseases.

For a summary of the work done at Infant Welfare Centres, see table on page 30.

# INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	Town Hall	Beaumont Hut	Devonport Hut	Wolseley Hall	St. Budeaux	Total
No. of sessions held ... ..	201	252	112	99	53	717
No. of babies entered on register ... ..	626 (332 1st)	851 (542 1st)	464 (288 1st)	377 (272 1st)	181 (123 1st)	2499 (1557 1st)
No. of children entered on register ... ..	417 (77 1st)	661 (98 1st)	429 (92 1st)	323 (67 1st)	204 (55 1st)	2034 (389 1st)
Total ... ..	1043	1512	893	700	385	4533
No. remaining on register on December 31st, 1938.						
Babies ... ..	248	473	216	186	98	1221*
Children ... ..	692	982	599	466	247	2986
Total ... ..	940	1455	815	652	345	4207
No. of babies weighed and mothers advised	5635	8523	3737	3823	1512	23230
No. of children weighed and mothers advised	4111	4559	2575	2868	1546	15659
Total ... ..	9746	13082	6312	6691	3 58	38889
Doctors' consultations ... ..	4158	5010	2368	2338	1133	15007
Average attendances per session ... ..	49	52	58	68	58	54
Dressings done ... ..	363	1107	356	184	134	2144
Sewing classes held ... ..	44	46	44	—	—	134
Total attendances ... ..	482	719	431	—	—	1642
Health talks given ... ..						10
Attendances at clinics by Health Visitors ... ..						2776

\* This represents 34% of the registered live births.



Diphtheria  
Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation at Maternity and Child  
Welfare Centres:—

1st attendances	...	...	...	519
Re-attendances	...	...	...	1294
Total				1813

For further particulars, see table on page 94.

The routine procedure of giving A.P.T. was altered to two .5 c.c. injections at intervals of three weeks, with a Schick test three months after the second injection. The postponement of the Schick test has resulted in a marked reduction of the number of Schick tests done at the completion of immunisation as compared with previous years when the test was done five to six weeks after the last injection, as with the interval extended to three months, many children do not return for the test. Out of 236 immunisations done by this method, 228 were Schick negative, i.e., 96.61 per cent., and 8 Schick positive, i.e., 3.39 per cent. (Half of those positive became negative after further injections.) Seven children had a marked local reaction with the primary injection of .5 c.c. A.P.T.

T.A.F. has been used for older children and 52 were immunised by this method, 86.54 per cent. being Schick negative and 13.46 per cent. being Schick positive. This is a high percentage of positives, but, as the group is a selected one, is not comparable with the results obtained with A.P.T. Five of the 7 positives were given further injections of T.A.F., and all became Schick negative.

Primary Schicks:—65 primary Schicks were done, 42 being negative and 23 positive. In the following table these are arranged in age groups:—

<i>Under 5 yrs.</i>	<i>6-7 yrs.</i>	<i>8 yrs.</i>	<i>9 yrs.</i>	<i>10 yrs.</i>
N.    P. 2    9	N.    P. 3    —	N.    P. 2    —	N.    P. 4    2	N.    P. 3    2

<i>11 yrs.</i>	<i>12 yrs.</i>	<i>13 yrs.</i>	<i>14 yrs.</i>	<i>Over 15 yrs.</i>
N.    P. 1    1	N.    P. 4    —	N.    P. 2    1	N.    P. 2    1	N.    P. 19   7



During 1938, fifteen children who had attended, at some time, a Maternity and Child Welfare Immunisation Clinic were admitted to Swilly Isolation Hospital on a provisional diagnosis of diphtheria. Of these, five had been fully immunised and had diphtheria of a mild type, five had been only partially immunised and had diphtheria of moderate severity, whereas four others had scarlet fever, not diphtheria, and one had measles.

For some time parents have been advised to bring their children back twice, at two yearly intervals, for a repeat injection. It is hoped that this follow-up system, once it is well established, will practically eliminate the mild case of diphtheria occurring in a child immunised and Schick negative several years previously.

**Dental Treatment.** Expectant and nursing mothers and children requiring dental treatment are referred by Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officers to the Dental Surgeon at Beaumont House, who is a full-time officer devoting only part of his time to Maternity and Child Welfare work.

While every effort is made to teach parents the value of conservative dental treatment, it would be helpful if the Dental Surgeon had time to carry out routine inspection of children under five at the various welfare centres.

The following is a summary of the work done during 1938:—

*Children.*

Fillings and extractions	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Fillings only	...	...	...	...	23
Extractions only	...	...	...	...	174
TOTAL					200

In 97 cases the parents paid a small fee towards the cost. The remainder were given free treatment.

*Nursing and expectant mothers.*

Scaling, treatment of gums and extractions	...	...	...	4
Scaling, treatment of gums and fillings	...	...	...	—
Scaling, treatment of gums, fillings and extractions	...	...	...	5
Scaling and treatment of gums	...	...	...	4
Fillings only	...	...	...	2
Fillings and extractions	...	...	...	4
Extractions only	...	...	...	83
TOTAL				102

Number of persons supplied with dentures (extractions included in the above return)	...	...	...	40
Number supplied with dentures only	...	...	...	9
Re-makes and repairs	...	...	...	3

In 9 cases the patients paid the whole cost of treatment, and in 58 the patients paid part cost. The remainder were granted free treatment (necessitous cases).

The total cost to the Department amounted to £472 14s. 0d. The receipts were £103 2s. 5d. Under the National Health Insurance rates the cost would have been £492 10s. 2d.

The following table shows the progress made since 1927:—

Year	No. of cases dealt with for extractions, fillings, etc.		DENTURES (Extractions in preceding col.)	
	Children	Nursing and Expectant Mothers	Persons supplied	Repairs
1927	41	48	15	2
1928	41	69	28	—
1929	130	69	41	—
1930	146	88	55	—
1931	163	106	43	—
1932	185	197	55	16
1933	210	159	63	11
1934	191	152	66	10
1935	167	164	55	8
1936	167	128	56	1
1937	161	103	44	3
1938	200	114	40	3

#### Orthopaedic Treatment.

Infant Welfare medical officers refer cases to the visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Mount Gold Orthopaedic Hospital, and arrangements are then made for the prescribed treatment to be carried out.

#### In-patient treatment at Mount Gold Hospital:—

Remaining under treatment from 1937 ... .. 10

1937 patients discharged in 1938 ... .. 10

Transferred to Tuberculosis Department ... .. 1

#### Admitted in 1938 :

New cases ... .. 16

Old cases re-admitted ... .. 4

— 20

#### Discharged in 1938 :

New cases ... .. 12

Old cases re-admitted ... .. 2

— 14

Under treatment at end of 1938 ... .. 7

Average length of stay per in-patient for 1938: 94.8 days.

Total cost of treatment and appliances, etc.: £999 10s. 0d.

#### Out-patient treatment.

No. recommended: 47.

**Ultra-Violet  
Light Clinics.** No. of sessions held, 203. No. on Register, 216.  
First attendances, 172. Total attendances, 4,484.  
Average attendance, 22.

The work of this Clinic is being carried on under difficult and trying conditions because of lack of space. It is to be hoped that some more adequate provision may be made in the near future.

*Rickets* : 81 cases.

Treatment completed, 14 (cured, 11 ; much improved, 3).  
Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 20 (all improved).  
(3 left Plymouth.)  
Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 18.  
Still under treatment, 23 (improved, 15).  
Referred to Orthopædic Hospital, 6.

*Sub-nutrition* : 4 cases.

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 2 (improved).  
Still attending, 2 (improving).

*General Debility* : 54 cases.

Treatment completed, 11 (cured, 5 ; much improved, 6).  
Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 17 (improved, 16 (3 left Plymouth) ; died of broncho-pneumonia, 1).  
Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 14.  
Still attending, 12.

*Skin Diseases* : 50 cases.

Treatment completed. Cured, 16 (alopecia, 5 ; impetigo, 6 ; eczema, 2 ; dermatitis, 2 ; abdominal sinus, 1).  
Treatment completed. Improved, 4 (papular urticaria, 3 ; flexural eczema, 1).  
Treatment completed. No benefit, dermatitis, 1.  
Treatment not completed but improved, 7 (dermatitis, 5 ; alopecia, 2).  
Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 13.  
Still attending, 9 (improving).

*Cervical Adenitis* : 16 cases (all tuberculous).

Cured, 2 ; improved, 5 ; no benefit, 1.  
Ceased attending after a few exposures, 5 (3 left Plymouth).  
Still attending, 3 (improving).

*Miscellaneous* : 3 cases.

Renal tuberculosis, benefit doubtful.  
Lupus of nose, no benefit.  
Tuberculide of hand, ceased to attend after a few exposures.

*Asthma and Bronchitis* : 7 cases.

Completed treatment, 1 (improved).  
Still attending, 5 (improving).  
Ceased to attend, 1.



# **Ante-Natal.**

No additional ante-natal sessions were started during the year.

	<i>Town Hall</i>	<i>Beaumont Hut</i>	<i>Devonport Hut</i>	<i>Wolseley Hall</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of sessions held	102	103	103	99	407
1st attend- ances { Pr. M. N.P.	65 199 20 } 284	83 199 20 } 302	61 155 5 } 221	37 148 1 } 186	246 701 46 } 993
Re-attendances ...	1242	1385	792	917	4336
Post-natal attendances { 1st re-	12 15	23 2	20 8	42 22	97 47
Miscellaneous { 1st re-	17 4	25 15	38 31	31 23	111 73
Total attendances { 1st re-	313 1261 } 1574	350 1402 } 1752	279 831 } 1110	259 960 } 1219	1201 4454 } 5655
Average per session }	15	17	11	12	14
Consultations ...	1274	1405	983	1090	4752
No. of transfers from 1937 }	50	55	56	48	209
Total No. of women attending during 1938 { A.N. P.N. Misc.	334 29 } 363	357 48 } 405	277 58 } 335	234 73 } 307	1202 208 } 1410

No. confined in 1938	...	...	...	...	828*
No. aborted in 1938	...	...	...	...	25
No. of above confined in City Hospital	...	...	...	...	174
No. referred to C.H. for A.N. treatment	...	...	...	...	8
No. confined T.T.N.A. (Home and District)	...	...	...	...	177
No. confined Alexandra (Home and District)	...	...	...	...	41
No. confined Municipal Midwife	...	...	...	...	297
No. left Plymouth	...	...	...	...	49

\* Includes 33 stillbirths.

## *Character of labour in 828 confinements :—*

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	753
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	52
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	9
Bimanual	...	...	...	...	10
Induction	...	...	...	...	1
Not known	...	...	...	...	3

*Abnormalities found in cases attending for the first time in 1938:—*

1. Contracted pelvis—					
Minor	...	...	...	...	19
Major	...	...	...	...	6
2. Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	79
3. Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	33
4. Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	1
5. Syphilis	...	...	...	...	8
6. Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	4
7. Cardiac disease	...	...	...	...	12
8. Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	17
9. Carious teeth	...	...	...	...	320
10. Profuse leucorrhœa	...	...	...	...	44
11. Severe digestive disturbances	...	...	...	...	13
12. Sub-nutrition	...	...	...	...	73
13. Anæmia	...	...	...	...	109

*Abnormalities found on post-natal examination:—*

No. of cases examined P.V.	...	...	...	...	67
Subinvolution	...	...	...	...	8
Prolapse of uterus	...	...	...	...	2
Cervical tears	...	...	...	...	10
Retroversion	...	...	...	...	11
Cystocele	...	...	...	...	2
Respiratory	...	...	...	...	1
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	4

**Auxiliary Services.**

Maternity Bags. No. lent, 6.

Accouchement sets sold at cost price or less—

    at ante-natal clinics ... .. 118

    through midwifery department ... 112

Net cost ... .. £46 0 0

Payment received ... .. £30 12 6

Cost to the Department ... .. £15 7 6

**Home Helps.**

During 1938 nineteen women were employed as home helps and attended 112 cases at a cost to the City of £209 10s. 8d.

	£	s.	d.
Paid in wages	...	...	...
Amount recovered	...	...	...
	£209	10	8

This is a decrease of £11 1s. 10d. on the previous year's expenditure.

In connection with this service, Health Visitors paid 208 visits.



<b>Supervision of Midwives.</b>	Number notifying their intention to practise	88
	Ceased practise during the year ...	3
	Left district after training ...	9
	Died ... ..	1
		— 13
		—
	On Register at end of year ... ..	75
		==
	Municipal (including Asst. Supervisor of Midwives)	12
	In private practice ... ..	13
	T.T.N.A. ... ..	31
	Alexandra Maternity Home ... ..	17
	Wingfield Nursing Home ... ..	1
	Abbotsfield ... ..	1
		—
		75
		==

No. of cases attended by private midwives:--

One midwife had 169 cases, one 69, two 57, two 20-30, and five under 10 cases.

Approximately 70.8 per cent. of the notified births (district and institutional) were conducted by midwives only.

District cases attended by midwife	... ..	1371
District cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	... ..	467
*Institutional cases attended by midwife	... ..	1284
*Institutional cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	... ..	577
		—
		3699
		==

\* Includes maternity and nursing homes, and hospitals.

Medical help was sought by midwives in 876 cases, approximately 83 calls being for the child.

The following are the reasons given for seeking medical aid : —

Pyelitis ... ..	2	Death of foetus ... ..	4
Albuminuria ... ..	36	Unsatisfactory condition of	
Severe sickness ... ..	5	the mother—	
Œdema ... ..	14	Ante-natal ... ..	16
Fits ... ..	4	Post-natal ... ..	14
Cardiac ... ..	10	Retained membranes ... ..	4
Varicose veins ... ..	9	Adherent placenta ... ..	8
Vaginal discharge ... ..	3	Ruptured perineum ... ..	235
Hydramnios ... ..	2	Pain in leg ... ..	3
Contracted pelvis ... ..	3	Painful breast ... ..	14
Malpresentation ... ..	23	Difficult micturition... ..	1
Patient's request ... ..	17	Rise of temperature ... ..	63
Foetal distress ... ..	18	Abdominal pains ... ..	6
Maternal distress ... ..	15	Skin condition—	
Hæmorrhage—		Mother ... ..	6
Placenta prævia ... ..	2	Baby ... ..	13
Ante-partum (undefined)... ..	23	Unsatisfactory condition of	
Post-partum ... ..	4	infant ... ..	30
Premature labour ... ..	4	Deformity of infant ... ..	6
Prolonged labour ... ..	159	Feeble infant ... ..	25
Difficult labour ... ..	2	Phimosis ... ..	1
Occipito posterior ... ..	9	Tongue tie ... ..	1
Breech ... ..	11	Discharging eyes ... ..	17
Prolapsed cord ... ..	4	Convulsions ... ..	2
Uterine inertia ... ..	6	Jaundice ... ..	1
Twins ... ..	3	Miscellaneous ... ..	2
Miscarriage ... ..	9		
Threatened abortion ... ..	5		876
Stillbirth ... ..	11		

Compared with last year's figures there is an increase of 167 in the number of calls.

Other notifications received from midwives under Central Midwives Board rules :—

Notifications of artificial feeding ... ..	130
„ „ stillbirth ... ..	24
„ „ death ... ..	25
„ „ having laid out a dead body ... ..	5
„ „ liability to be a source of infection ... ..	25

Twenty visits of inspection were paid to midwives in their own homes.

**Domiciliary Midwifery Service** At the end of 1938, the domiciliary midwifery of the City was being done by eleven municipal midwives, seven district midwives attached to the Three Towns Nursing Association plus reliefs, two district midwives attached to the Alexandra Maternity Home plus reliefs, and twelve midwives engaged in private practice.

For the first year the Local Authority has agreed to pay these two Voluntary Associations 28s. 3d. for each domiciliary midwifery case attended by their midwives, this being the amount estimated to cover the difference between the average cost per patient to the Association and the average contribution received by the Association from patients.

The district midwives attached to the T.T.N.A. and to the Alexandra Maternity Home work on similar lines to the Municipal Midwives, and, with the exception of Service cases attended by the Alexandra midwives at a modified fee, their respective Institutions have adopted a similar scale of fees.

The number of cases attended by these groups during the year was as follows:—

Municipal	...	...	...	...	685
Three Towns Nursing Association	...	...	...	...	539
Alexandra Home	...	...	...	...	184
Private	...	...	...	...	430
TOTAL					<u>1838</u>

The Municipal Midwifery Service started on October 1st, 1937, with ten midwives, all of whom had been previously engaged in private practice in the City. At the end of February, 1938, one midwife resigned, and in May, one midwife retired. Both of these were replaced by midwives who were also State Registered Nurses. In November an additional midwife was appointed, bringing the total up to eleven. Every effort was made to work the Municipal Midwifery Service on a satisfactory basis from the outset. Difficulties were expected and were encountered. The individual nurses who had always worked independently were occasionally inclined to find team work strange and, at times, irksome and difficult. The patient who had been used to one nurse all the time, had to adapt herself to the possibility of the nurse of her choice being relieved by other nurses whom she might not know. But these and many other difficulties are being gradually surmounted, and at the end of December the service was working very smoothly and well.

It has been found that the most satisfactory arrangement is to have the midwives working in groups of two or four, and these two living, if not in the same house or adjoining houses, at least in houses not far apart. All Municipal Midwives have been provided with telephones.

To every confinement the Municipal Midwife takes a sterile bundle containing two gowns, two caps, two masks, three towels, two sanitary towels, swabs, ligatures and cord dressings, and she leaves a clean gown in the patient's house to be worn at subsequent nursing visits. Sterile masks are carried in the nursing bag, and one is worn at each visit.



In addition to this, maternity outfits, which include cotton-wool, pads, cord dressings and ligatures, can be obtained at the Midwifery Office, Town Hall, Stonehouse, or from any Municipal Midwife, or at any of the Municipal Ante-natal Clinics at the nominal charge of 4/-. This charge is reduced for necessitous mothers.

The patient's choice of midwife has, of necessity, to be limited to those resident in her particular district, and is always subject to the booking capacity of the midwife. The fee for a Municipal Midwife is £2 2s., but where a doctor is also engaged for the case the fee is reduced to £1 15s. This fee includes morning and evening visits for the first three days and daily visits until the fourteenth day. If a reduction of the fee is desired, a form has to be filled in giving particulars of the family income and expenditure. This form can be had from the midwife on booking. It should be completed according to the instructions printed thereon and returned as soon as possible to the Town Hall, Stonehouse. Fees may be paid in full or by instalments before the confinement takes place, if the patient so wishes. Midwives may receive monies and give receipts.

Any fees outstanding after the Municipal Midwife has ceased to attend a case are collected by the City Treasurer; but the majority of fees are paid to the midwife or to the Central Midwifery Office, and the total sum of £1,070 19s. 6d. was thus paid during the year, leaving only £156 3s. 0d. to be collected by the City Treasurer—a most satisfactory result.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year:

No. of cases attended—					
Midwife only	...	...	...	...	526
Midwife with doctor	...	...	...	...	131
					— 657
No. of cases attended by relief nurses—					
Midwife only	...	...	...	...	23
Midwife with doctor	...	...	...	...	5
					— 28
					685
No. of cases booked	...	...	...	...	697
No. of ante-natal visits paid by Midwives	...	...	...	...	3,698
No. of ante-natal clinic visits paid by Midwives	...	...	...	...	201
No. of patients transferred to the City Hospital	...	...	...	...	21
No. of miscarriages	...	...	...	...	4
No. of emergency deliveries	...	...	...	...	6

**Fees paid to Doctors.** Six hundred and eighty-nine doctors' accounts (a marked increase from 486 in 1937) were dealt with under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, and in 228 of these the full fee was paid by the Local Supervising Authority without recovery. In 350 cases the full fee, and in 111 cases half the fee, was recoverable in accordance with the scale of income fixed by the City Council. Amount paid, £964 15s. 0d.; Recoverable, £538 10s. 9d. Total cost, £426 4s. 3d.

There were also seven calls under the Domiciliary Midwifery Consultant Service Scheme.

**Maternity and Nursing Homes.**

*Maternity Homes.*

On Register, 1st January, 1938	...	...	...	3
Closed during the year	...	...	...	—
On Register at end of year	...	...	...	3
<i>Nursing Homes.</i> (Five take maternity cases).				
On Register, 1st January, 1938	...	...	...	6
Closed during the year	...	...	...	—
On Register at end of year	...	...	...	6

There were no applications for exemption from registration.

Routine visits of inspection are paid by the Senior Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer to all registered nursing homes; twenty-one such visits were paid during the year.

Special visits were paid to the Alexandra Maternity Home during January and February because of the occurrence of several cases of pemphigus and of puerperal pyrexia, and on three occasions the entire staff was swabbed. This Home was closed for admissions from the 6th to the 20th January, and the new block was closed from the 29th January to the 10th February. Special visits were again paid in April because of another series of puerperal pyrexia cases mostly of a mild type, and later of pemphigus, and towards the end of the month the Home was again closed for a week.

A special visit was paid to the T.T.N.A. Maternity Home in March in connection with a series of puerperal pyrexia cases. This Home was closed from the 15th to the 25th August, on account of pemphigus.

Any information suggesting the existence of an unregistered Home is at once investigated and the necessary action taken, and in this connection, one warning letter was sent during the year. In a city the size of Plymouth it would be difficult for an unregistered Home to exist for any length of time without some news of it reaching the Public Health Department.



## Maternal Mortality

Twelve women died in Plymouth during 1938 from causes attributable to pregnancy and childbirth, and four from causes associated with pregnancy and childbirth. Five of the twelve deaths due to pregnancy and childbirth were outward transfers. There were no inward transfers. There were, therefore, seven deaths belonging to Plymouth, giving a maternal mortality rate of 2.03 per 1,000 allocated births (puerperal sepsis, .87; other causes, 1.16).

The Registrar-General has also allocated seven deaths to Plymouth, but he has excluded one abortion sepsis death included in the local figures, and he has included one death amongst other puerperal causes which has been classified locally as only associated with pregnancy. Whilst the total number of deaths is the same in both cases, the Registrar-General has allocated 2 to sepsis and 5 to other causes, whereas the local figures are :—due to sepsis 3; and to other causes 4.

## DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH: 4.

### *Causes of Death.*

- (1) Acute septic laryngotracheitis, labour.
- (2) Pneumonia, abortion.
- (3) Pneumonia, pregnancy.
- (4) Mitral stenosis, puerperal mastitis.

## DEATHS DUE TO PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH: 12.

(Belonging to Plymouth, 7).

### *Causes.*

Sepsis (primip., 2; multip., 1) ... ..	3
Abortion sepsis (multip.) ... ..	1
Hæmorrhage—Placenta prævia (multip.) ...	1
Eclampsia (primip., 1; multip., 1) ... ..	2
Toxæmia (cerebral hæmorrhage) (multip) ...	1
Following Cæsarean section (primip., 1; multip., 1)	2
Cardiac thrombosis following labour (primip.) ...	1
Post-operative shock (retained products of conception) (primip.) ... ..	1
	<hr/>
	12
	<hr/>

### *Where confined.*

Aborted City Hospital ... ..	2
Aborted own home ... ..	1
Confined own home ... ..	3
Confined at Institutions—	
City Hospital ... ..	2
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank ...	1
T.T.N.A. ... ..	2
Nursing Home ... ..	1
	<hr/>
	12
	<hr/>

*Character of labour.*

Abortion ...	...	...	...	...	3
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	1
Manual delivery	...	...	...	...	2
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	2
Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	2
Induction ...	...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Ages.*

Under 20 years	...	...	...	...	1
21-24       ,,	...	...	...	...	2
25-29       ,,	...	...	...	...	2
30-34       ,,	...	...	...	...	4
35-39       ,,	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Parity.*

1st Pregnancy	...	...	...	...	6
2nd       ,,	...	...	...	...	3
3rd       ,,	...	...	...	...	1
5th       ,,	...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Duration of pregnancy.*

Term ...	...	...	...	...	5
38 weeks ...	...	...	...	...	1
32-36       ,,	...	...	...	...	3
Under 24 weeks	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Home conditions.*

Good ...	...	...	...	...	3
Fair ...	...	...	...	...	6
Poor ...	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Ante-natal supervision.*

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	7
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	2
Nil ...	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

*Place of death.*

Died in own home	...	...	...	...	2
,,   City Hospital	...	...	...	...	6
,,   Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank	...	...	...	...	2
,,   Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	1
,,   Three Towns Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 12
					<hr/>

# TOTAL PUERPERAL MORTALITY.

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES		PLYMOUTH	
	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births
1928	4.42	4.25	6.04	—
1929	4.33	4.16	4.98	—
1930	4.40	4.22	6.43	—
1931	4.11	3.94	—	2.81
1932	4.21	4.04	—	5.58
1933	4.51	4.32	—	5.95
1934	4.60	4.42	—	4.2
1935	4.10	3.93	—	5.01
1936	3.81	3.65	—	2.82
1937	3.23	3.11	—	5.3
1938	3.08	2.97*	—	2.03†

\* Puerperal sepsis 0.86  
Other causes 2.11

† Puerperal sepsis 0.87  
Other causes 1.16

## **Puerperal Pyrexia**

The total number of cases notified was 67. Moved to Plymouth after confinement, 1; confined in Plymouth but residing outside, 16; Plymouth cases, 50.

Year	No. of cases notified		Total
	P.P.	P.F.	
Oct., 1926– Dec., 1927	—	—	96
1928	—	—	58
1929	47	15	62
1930	32	20	52
1931	41	12	53
1932	39	13	52
1933	25	26	51
1934	29	16	45
1935	30	22	52
1936	21	17	38
1937	41	14	55
1938	67	—	67

Non-Plymouth cases, 16. Five were notified from the Three Towns Nursing Association Maternity Home (3 sepsis, 2 mastitis); 8 from the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Greenbank (1 sepsis following craniotomy, 1 mastitis following A.P.H., 5 pyrexia following Cæsarean section, 1 urinary infection); 3 from a nursing home (2 sepsis following labour, 1 pyrexia following abortion).

Plymouth cases: 50.

Treated own homes	...	...	...	...	9
„ City Hospital	...	...	...	...	34
„ in Maternity Homes	...	...	...	...	6
„ in Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>
Aborted own home	...	...	...	...	3
„ in City Hospital	...	...	...	...	2
Confined own home—					
(a) midwife only	...	...	...	...	16
(b) midwife with doctor	...	...	...	...	8
Confined City Hospital	...	...	...	...	3
„ Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	11
„ T.T.N.A. Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	6
„ Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>
<i>Parity.</i>					
Primiparæ	...	...	...	...	27
Multiparæ	...	...	...	...	20
Not known	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>
<i>Duration of pregnancy.</i>					
Term	...	...	...	...	44
Abortion	...	...	...	...	5
Premature	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>
<i>Character of labour.</i>					
Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	29
Spontaneous but manual removal of placenta	...	...	...	...	1
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	12
Abortion	...	...	...	...	5
Induction	...	...	...	...	1
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	1
Internal version	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>
<i>Day of onset of illness.</i>					
1st	...	...	...	...	4
2nd	...	...	...	...	7
3rd	...	...	...	...	9
4th	...	...	...	...	3
5th	...	...	...	...	5
6th	...	...	...	...	3
7th	...	...	...	...	2
8th	...	...	...	...	2
9th	...	...	...	...	3
10th	...	...	...	...	1
11th	...	...	...	...	3
12th	...	...	...	...	3
Over 12th	...	...	...	...	1
Before abortion	...	...	...	...	1
Before labour	...	...	...	...	2
Not known	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					50
					<hr/>



<i>Pyrexia due to—</i>					
Sepsis following labour (including 2 deaths)	...	...	...	...	25
Sepsis following abortion	...	...	...	...	4
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	9
Post-partum eclampsia	...	...	...	...	1
Pyelitis	...	...	...	...	1
Shock	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal insanity	...	...	...	...	1
P.U.O.	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Acute bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Lobar pneumonia (pneumococcal)	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					50
					—

The only deaths were three: two from sepsis, as recorded above, and one from V.D.H. associated with pregnancy, labour and puerperium.

Bacteriological data *re* sepsis cases.

In two cases a non-hæmolytic streptococcus was grown from the cervix and the throat, and in two cases from the cervix only. In one case, staphylococcus aureus was cultured from the blood and the cervix. Otherwise there is nothing of note to record.

#### Birth Control.

The Plymouth Branch of the National Birth Control Association continues to hold an evening Clinic once a week at Beaumont Hut, and the following report of the year's work has been submitted by the honorary secretary:—

No. of clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	48
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	156
(Sent by Health Authorities, 46. Paid for, 31).						
No. of return visits	...	...	...	...	...	891
Seen by doctor	...	...	...	...	...	638

Both the number of new cases and the number of return visits have increased, and there is also a considerable increase in the doctor's consultations. The number of cases sent by Health Authorities is less than last year.

The City Council pays a grant of 8s. 6d. for every necessitous case referred for advice by medical officers of the Council. Thirty-one such cases were referred in the course of the year.

**Nova et vetera.** *Voluntary Workers.*—It is a pleasure to record yet another year of indebtedness to the many voluntary workers who help so willingly at the various Welfare Centres.

### *Dinners for Expectant and Nursing Mothers.*

Throughout the year the Council of Social Service continued to provide dinners for needy expectant and nursing mothers referred to them by Maternity and Child Welfare medical officers. Forty mothers were thus assisted, the whole expense being borne by the Council of Social Service, except in five instances where the mother was already in receipt of Public Assistance relief and the Public Assistance Committee paid for her dinners.

### *Stoke House.*

The medical supervision of this Children's Home is still carried out by a medical officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare staff. Fifty-three visits were paid during the year.

The number of children in the Home varies between 35 and 40, and at the end of December there were 31 children in the Home. A few cases of measles occurred early in January. In June there was a minor outbreak of scarlet fever, when all the children were passively immunised and subsequently Dick tested. One child who remained positive was actively immunised, but left the Home before the course was completed. Several of those who received passive immunisation had fairly marked reactions, characterised by high fever, rashes, adenitis and faintness. Desquamation was not observed. None of the children who were passively immunised subsequently contracted scarlet fever. The second half of the year was very free from sickness, and all the children gained in height and weight and were in good condition. Half-yearly reports are submitted to the Education Authority.

### *Observation Play Circle.*

Forty-six sessions were held during the year under the supervision of Mrs. Hamley, assisted by two helpers, to all of whom we are deeply indebted for their services, which are entirely voluntary.

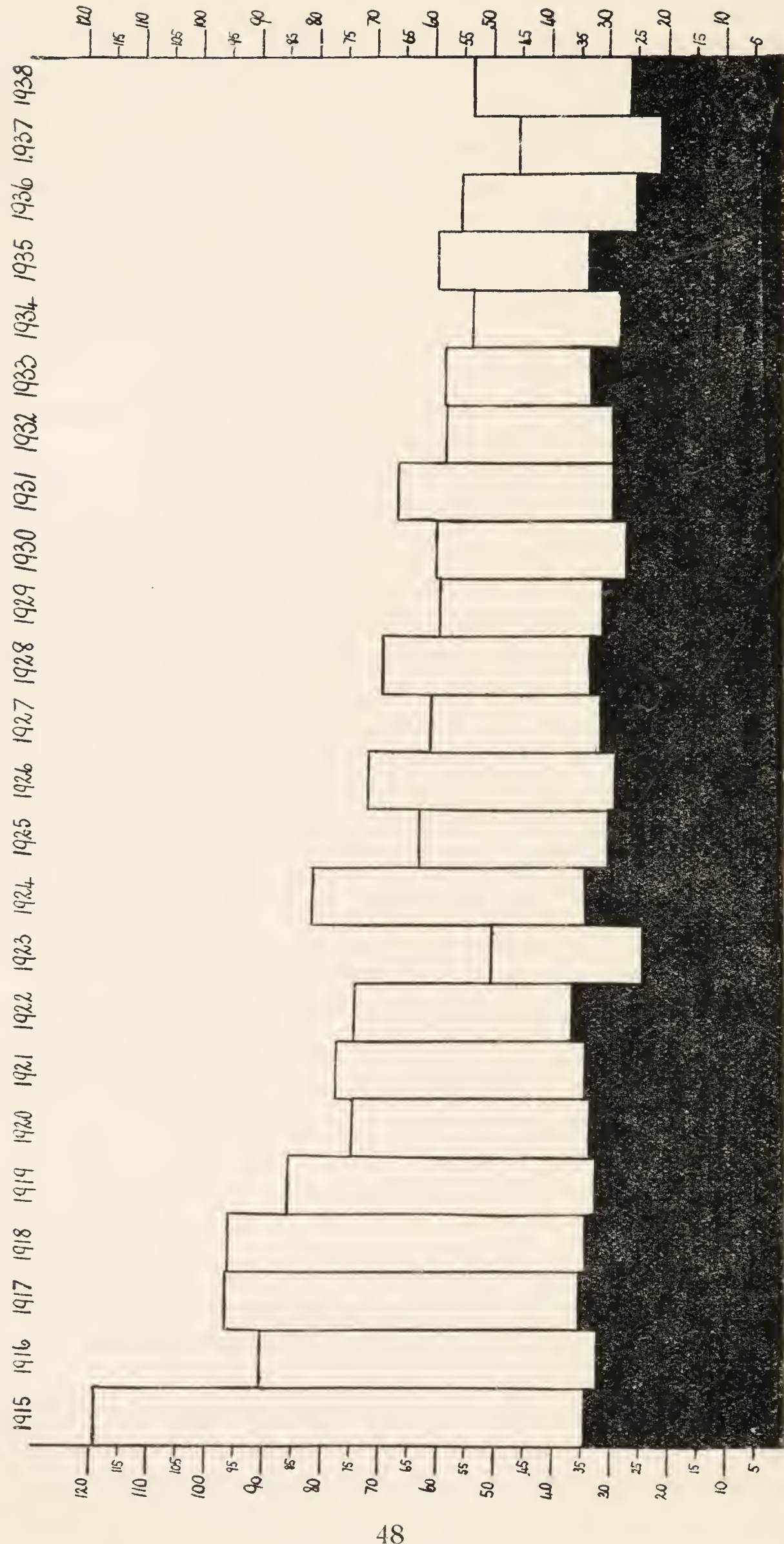
First attendances	...	...	...	60
Re-attendances	...	...	...	526
Total	...	...	...	<u>586</u>

Taking into consideration the fact that Mrs. Hamley was absent for four months on account of illness, and that during her absence no new cases were taken on, the attendance figures are very satisfactory.

The difficulty of securing the services of trained workers on a purely voluntary basis has so far prevented the extension of this valuable branch of work to the other welfare centres.



# INFANTILE MORTALITY 1915-1938



NOTE : The shaded portion shows the number of Deaths due to ante-natal causes per 1,000 births ; and the unshaded portion shows the Deaths due to post-natal influences. The total column shows the rate of infantile mortality year by year.



INFANTILE MORTALITY.  
Year 1938.

Cause of Death.	Whether Uncertified.	Illegiti- mate.		AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.																				WARD DISTRIBUTION.																								
				Under 1 week.		1-2 weeks.		2-3 weeks.		3-4 weeks.		Total under 1 month.		1-3 months.		3-6 months.		6-9 months.		9-12 months.		Total under 1 year.		Compton.	Mutley.	Pennycross.	Laira.	Charles.	Friary.	Sutton.	Vintry.	Drake.	St. Andrew's.	St. Peter's.	Valletort.	Mount Edgcombe.	Molesworth.	St. Budeaux.	Ford.	Nelson.	Keyham.	St. Aubyn.	Stoke.	Totals				
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.																									
1. Measles ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	9	—	10	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11			
2. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8		
3. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
4. Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
5. Tuberculosis of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
6. Tuberculosis of intestines and peritoneum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
7. Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
8. Syphilis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
9. Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
10. Convulsions ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7		
11. Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
12. Pneumonia ... ..	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	3	2	5	6	4	3	3	5	3	17	18	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	3	5	1	2	5	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	
13. Other respiratory diseases...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
14. Inflammation of the stomach ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
15. Diarrhoea and enteritis ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	
16. Hernia, intestinal obstruction ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
17. Congenital malformation ... ..	—	1	—	2	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	6	3	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	7	9	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	
18. Congenital debility and sclerema ...	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9		
19. Icterus ... ..	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
20. Premature birth ... ..	—	4	—	17	14	1	1	—	—	—	1	18	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	16	1	—	3	1	1	—	—	2	3	3	2	6	—	2	1	6	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	36	
21. Injury at birth ... ..	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
22. Disease of umbilicus ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
23. Atelectasis ... ..	—	1	—	9	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	9	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	8	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	
24. Suffocation in bed, or not stated how ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25. Other Causes ... ..	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	1	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	12	3	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Total ... ..	—	12	3	36	29	3	8	2	1	4	4	45	42	23	13	9	9	5	5	18	7	100	76	3	2	13	15	2	3	5	10	9	9	16	2	14	6	17	10	6	10	10	4	—	176			

Live Births (allocated by the Reg. Gen.) belonging to the City:— Total 3,305 (M. 1,696; F. 1,609). Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 Live Births) 53.25.





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Sanitary Circumstances of the Area  
including the  
Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

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## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area including the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

**Water Supply.** 1. (i) The water supply for the City is derived from moorland catchment areas in the uplands of Dartmoor. The practice of chloramination and chlorination of all water has been continued throughout the year, on the lines outlined in my Annual Report for 1935, and the necessary adjustments in dosage were effected from time to time in the light of results of bacteriological examinations.

A survey of all reservoirs was conducted with a view to avoiding any possibility of pollution from defective drains, and the necessary action has been taken with regard to any defective drains which were found. There have been no instances of specific contamination disclosed during the year.

Certain important extensions of mains, together with the erection of a new covered Service Reservoir, are at present in progress, but as yet incomplete. There have been no new sources of water supply brought into service during the year.

Throughout the year, weekly samples have been taken for bacteriological examination at the Prince of Wales's Laboratory from the districts supplied by all six service reservoirs.

In addition, independent examinations have been undertaken at another laboratory. The following table gives the results of these examinations. Whenever there has been any divergence in the bacteriological reports, the lower dilution has been recorded.

Two samples per quarter have been taken for chemical analysis.



BEACON      CROWNHILL      DRAKE      HARTLEY      ROBOROUGH      ROWDEN      SUMMARY,  
1938

	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Absent in 100 c.c. ...	42	82.35	47	81.04	28	50.91	41	75.93	44	81.48	34	61.81	236	72.17
Present in 100 c.c., but absent in 50 c.c. ...	7	13.73	6	10.34	14	25.45	7	12.96	2	3.70	14	25.45	50	15.29
Present in 50 c.c., but absent in 25 c.c. ...	—	—	3	5.17	2	3.64	2	3.70	2	3.70	1	1.82	10	3.06
Present in 25 c.c., but absent in 10 c.c. ...	—	—	—	—	8	14.55	1	1.85	4	7.40	1	1.82	14	4.28
Present in 10 c.c. or less ...	2	3.92	2	3.45	3	5.45	3	5.55	2	3.70	5	9.10	17	5.20
TOTALS ...	51		58		55		54		54		55		327	

Quarterly chemical analyses gave the following results, the figures representing parts per 100,000:—

	JANUARY		APRIL		AUGUST		NOVEMBER	
Total Dissolved Solids ...	6·0	7·0	5·0	5·4	3·0	3·0	4·5	3·5
Suspended Matter ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammonia ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Trace	Trace	Trace
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0·002	0·002	0·002	0·002	0·002	0·003	0·003	0·003
Nitrogen as Nitrites ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates ...	0·087	0·087	0·109	0·109	0·131	0·153	0·131	0·153
Chlorine as Chlorides ...	1·065	1·065	0·71	0·71	1·07	1·07	0·533	0·71
O <sub>2</sub> consumed ... ..	0·352	0·648	0·232	0·197	0·24	0·27	0·272	0·276
Poisonous Metals ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Permanent Hardness ...	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·5	0·5	0·75	0·5
Temporary Hardness ...	0·5	0·5	0·25	0·25	0·25	0·25	0·25	0·25

**Drainage and Sewerage** (ii) I am indebted to the City Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J. Paton Watson) for the following information on drainage and sewerage:—

A contract for £65,138 is in hand for the main drainage of the western area of the City, comprising an area of 2,180 acres and including a large portion of the area proposed to be added to the City on April 1st, 1939. Half of this work has already been completed.

The reconstruction of the Camel's Head sewage purification works is well in hand, after the completion of which it will be possible to give the sewage from the area full treatment before discharging into the River Tamar.

Sewerage reconstruction schemes costing £2,800 have been carried out during the year, and contracts have been let for the enlargement and reconstruction of the St. Levan Road sewer, costing £13,562, and Compton main sewer, £10,784; also Deadlake Valley sewer, costing £10,825.

**Closet Accommodation**                      2. (i) There are no closets on the conservancy system remaining in the populous part of the City, and only three on the outskirts of the City. Of these three, one has become disused, the house having been closed under the Housing Act, 1936.

At the beginning of the year, cesspools were known to be in existence at 22 premises on the outskirts of the City, four of which were abolished during the year.

**Public Cleansing**                      (ii) The number of mechanical vehicles for house refuse removal is being increased with a consequent decrease in the number of horses engaged in this work.

In connection with the disposal of house refuse, the controlled tipping at Lipson Marshes and Camel's Head has progressed satisfactorily and the City Engineer's department is now reclaiming all metal and tins, which is resulting in better consolidation and improved conditions.

Methods of street cleansing have been improved. The number of dual purpose orderly trucks has been increased to 58, and the former practice of leaving heaps of sweepings in the streets awaiting transport has been discontinued.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

**Complaints Received**                      (iii) (a) During the year, 1,222 complaints were received and investigated relating to the various matters set out in the following table:—

<i>Nature of Complaint</i>					<i>No. received</i>
General Housing defects	...	...	...	...	211
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	155
Dampness	...	...	...	...	140
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	121
Vermin	...	...	...	...	81
Offensive smells	...	...	...	...	86
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	79
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	72
Water-closets out of order	...	...	...	...	67
Requests to call	...	...	...	...	55
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	48
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	29
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	29
Lack of adequate Water supply	...	...	...	...	20
Defective refuse bins	...	...	...	...	18
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	11
TOTAL					1222

Premises  
Inspected

(b) The following statement indicates the number of inspections of various premises (other than premises used for storage, preparation or sale of food) carried out during the year:—

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>No. of Visits.</i>
HOUSES—	
Miscellaneous conditions ... ..	7192
Notifiable diseases ... ..	825
Other diseases ... ..	8
Verminous ... ..	600
H.C.N. Disinfestation ... ..	117
Dirty ... ..	95
Overcrowding ... ..	1451
Common lodging-houses ... ..	35
Factories ... ..	1060
Workplaces ... ..	9
Outworkers' premises ... ..	317
Smoke observations taken ... ..	43
Drains smoke-tested and inspected	3685
Premises where animals kept ... ..	18
Stables ... ..	58
Water supplies ... ..	193
Marine Stores ... ..	7
Offensive trades ... ..	96
Tents, vans and sheds ... ..	22
Schools ... ..	67
Public-houses ... ..	49
Waste land ... ..	37
Public Conveniences ... ..	528
Sewers, street gullies, etc. ... ..	182
Premises infested with rats or mice	688
Shops ( <i>re</i> Shops Act requirements)	514
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	1109
Owners and Contractors interviewed	247



**Notices  
Served**

(c) The following table shows the number of Notices served during the year in order to secure the abatement of nuisances and in order to obtain other Statutory requirements:—

No. of Informal Notices served	...	...	2581
„ „ „ complied with	...	...	2025
„ Statutory Notices served	...	...	447
„ „ „ complied with	...	...	336

**Result of  
Service of  
Notices**

(d) The nature and extent of nuisances abated and repairs executed are as follows:—

*Houses—*

Provided with damp-proof courses	...	...	2
New floors laid or repaired	...	...	104
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	221
Means of ventilation improved	...	...	70
Plasterwork repaired	...	...	232
Roofs repaired	...	...	304
Walls repointed	...	...	20
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	50
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	...	...	66
Supplied with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	23
Ventilated food cupboards	...	...	2
Eaves gutters fixed or repaired	...	...	129
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drain	...	...	5
Yard pavements repaired	...	...	304
Yards repaved	...	...	82
Nuisances abated arising from keeping of swine or other animals	...	...	21
Accumulations of manure or refuse removed	...	...	126
Chimney stacks rebuilt	...	...	2
Other sanitary improvements	...	...	4

*Drainage—*

Tests applied	...	...	...	2224
Examined	...	...	...	852
Cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	586
Reconstructed	...	...	...	282
New drains constructed	...	...	...	93
Disconnected from sewer	...	...	...	141
Ventilated	...	...	...	155
Drain-openings removed from inside buildings	...	...	...	14

Sewers tested	...	...	...	...	9
Cesspits abolished	...	...	...	...	4
New sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	105
Waste pipes of sinks trapped or renewed	...	...	...	...	123
Urinals improved	...	...	...	...	12
New chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	338
New interceptors provided	...	...	...	...	28
Manholes repaired	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Water-closets—</i>					
Limewashed or cleansed	...	...	...	...	60
Repaired	...	...	...	...	165
Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	37
Light and ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	36
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	66
Provided with a sufficient supply of water	...	...	...	...	23
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	132
New flush pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	84
New cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	170
Cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Pedestal pans fixed	...	...	...	...	479
<i>Ashpits—</i>					
Abolished	...	...	...	...	96
Portable receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	561
<i>Common Lodging Houses—</i>					
Cleansed	...	...	...	...	4
<i>Bakehouses—</i>					
Limewashed	...	...	...	...	118
<i>Cowsheds—</i>					
Limewashed	...	...	...	...	42
<i>Dairies and Milkshops—</i>					
Limewashed	...	...	...	...	58
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	40
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	...	...	...	...	1

**Shops** (iv) The inspection of shops in connection with arrangements made for the health and comfort of shop-workers proceeded throughout the year.

The following summary indicates the number of inspections of shops made, the infringements found, and the extent of the work carried out :—

Total number of shops inspected	...	...	308
Total number of shops re-inspected	...	...	206

<i>Description of Infringement of Section 10, Shops Act</i>	<i>Preliminary Notices</i>		<i>Statutory Notices</i>	
	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
1. Ventilation not provided or maintained ... ..	3	1	—	—
2. Means for maintaining a reasonable temperature not provided ... ..	32	16	1	—
3. Suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences not available ... ..	31	12	4	1
4. Suitable and sufficient washing facilities not available	71	38	8	5
5. Facilities for taking meals not provided ... ..	1	—	—	—

*Certificates of Exemption.*

Certificates exempting shops from the provisions of sub-Section 2 of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934 (relating to the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences) were issued in three cases. No certificates of exemption from sub-Section 4 of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934 (relating to the provision of suitable and sufficient washing facilities) were issued.

These Certificates of Exemption are issued only in those cases where by reason of restricted accommodation or other special circumstances affecting the shop it would be unreasonable to enforce the provision of sanitary conveniences or washing facilities, but such conveniences must be otherwise conveniently available for shop-workers before the certificate is issued.

**Smoke Abatement** (v) Twenty-nine complaints of smoke nuisances were received during the year. In one instance nuisance was caused by the emission of smoke from a laundry chimney. Investigation showed that unsuitable fuel was being used. This was changed and the nuisance abated.

In another instance it was found that a nuisance caused by a factory chimney was primarily due to insufficient draught. A forced draught furnace was installed, since when the nuisance has been abated.

In other cases nuisances were abated by improvement in the methods of stoking.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs** (vi) During the year 45 Council houses and 220 privately owned houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and were disinfested. The majority of the houses were treated with proprietary liquid disinfectant. Towards the end of the year we started to use Heavy Naphtha in suitable cases; so far the results have been satisfactory.

The furniture of 313 families who were removed in connection with the Slum Clearance Programme of the City Council was treated with hydrogen cyanide. Bedding belonging to these people was subjected to steam disinfestation at the City Isolation Hospital.

During July certain rearrangements were made, including the performance of disinfestation by members of the staff of this Department. These have proved satisfactory and have resulted in considerable reduction in the cost of the work.

Advice is given by the Sanitary Inspector, and leaflets have been left for them regarding the means of preventing re-infestation of houses which have been cleansed.

## SECTION D.—HOUSING.

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	7,192
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	17,653
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	666
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1,907
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	158



(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	508
2.	REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	2,025
3.	ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	219
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ... ..	166
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	228
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ... ..	170
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	39
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	22
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	84
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ... ..	38
4.	HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.	
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	2351
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	2880
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	14825

(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the									
	year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the								
		year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	488
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...						2998

Of the 488 cases of overcrowding relieved during the year, 176 were re-housed in Corporation houses or flats, and 312 families found other accommodation themselves.

The number of cases of overcrowding at the end of the year in houses owned by the Local Authority was 357; the number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the Local Authority which have been relieved during the year was 25.

In twelve instances, private houses had become overcrowded since the appointed day (i.e., 1st January, 1938). In each of these cases notices were served on the landlord and the occupier, and the overcrowding was abated in all these cases.

Much inconvenience to landlords and tenants would be saved if more landlords had regard to sub-Section 5 (b) of Section 59 of the Housing Act, 1936. There is reason to believe that some landlords fail to make enquiries of proposed occupiers as to the number, age and sex of persons who would be allowed to sleep in the house. The result is that where these enquiries have not been made and a house is found to have become overcrowded, the landlord gives the tenant notice to quit the house, causing much inconvenience to the tenant and some expense he can ill afford, in addition to the inconvenience also caused to the landlord.

*Entries in Rent Books.* The overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act will become more generally known when more attention is given to inserting the necessary information in rent books. Section 62 of the Housing Act, 1936, requires that every rent book or similar document should contain a summary of Sections 58, 59 and 61 of the Act, and a statement of the permitted number in relation to the house. The name and address of the Medical Officer of Health and of the landlord is also required to be inserted in the rent book.

Where these requirements have not been carried out, the persons responsible have been communicated with, and in one instance it has been necessary to institute proceedings, when the offender was fined ten shillings.

**New  
Houses.**

The following table shows the number of new dwelling-houses erected in the City during recent years :—

Year.	<i>By the Corporation.</i>			<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>			TOTAL
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1919 } to 1936 }	2361	523	2884	4592	24	4616	7500
1937	116	136	252	786	36	822	1074
1938	269	392	661	768	63	831	1492
Totals	2746	1051	3797	6146	123	6269	10066

**Rats and Mice  
Destruction**

Owners and occupiers of premises have been advised the precautions to be taken to prevent rat infestation and also on the most suitable methods of rat destruction. During the year, 1,217 baits were laid, 451 of which were recorded to have been taken, and 330 rats were caught.

During National Rat Week, which commenced on November 7th, 1938, the following steps were taken :—

A communication was addressed to all chemists in the City asking them to exhibit in a prominent place in their shops a National Rat Week Poster issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and also asking them to advertise suitable baits and appliances for killing rats and mice. It was noticed that during Rat Week the majority of chemists complied with this request.

Communications were addressed to the local Press enclosing some notes on rats and mice extermination, and stating that a useful purpose might be served if the Press could give some publicity to these notes. The local Press gave publicity to these notes, and at the end of Rat Week these newspapers also gave publicity to the results of efforts made to destroy rats.

Baits were laid in many sewers, and special attention was given to stores and other premises in the vicinity of the Fish Quay. In addition to this, rat hunts were arranged and smoke-guns applied



at various places, including two refuse tips in the City. During Rat Week, 310 baits were laid and 26 traps were set, with the result that 54 rats were caught.

**Factories** Details of the sanitary inspection of factories under the Factories Act, 1937, are given in the following tables :—

1. *Inspections* :—

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
Factories with mechanical power ...	182	53	—
Factories without mechanical power	878	82	—
Other Premises ... ..	—	—	—

2. *Defects found* :—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of defects</i>			<i>No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness ... ..	75	102	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	1*	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	3	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	14	12	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences {	Insufficient	3	—	—
	Unsuitable or defective	45	—	—
	Not separate for sexes ...	4	—	—
Other offences ... ..	20	27	—	—

\* Discovered during the previous year.



### CREMATION.

The Plymouth City Crematorium at Efford Cemetery was opened in November, 1934. The Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health are the Medical Referee and Deputy Medical Referee respectively. Up to the end of 1938, a total of 798 cremations were carried out, 261 during the year. Of these 261, 55 were in respect of residents of the City of Plymouth.

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Inspection and Supervision of Food

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## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

**Milk Supply.** The estimated quantity of milk sold for liquid consumption in this City daily is 8,250 gallons. In addition to this, a further 750 to 1,000 gallons is retailed as "scald" (skimmed) milk.

Of the 8,250 gallons of milk, 4,490 gallons, or 54.4%, is milk which has been pasteurised under a licence granted by virtue of the Milk (Special Designations) Order; 450 gallons, or 5.45%, is retailed as sterilized milk. Of this total daily consumption, 1,200 gallons, or 14.55%, is heat-treated milk other than designated pasteurised and sterilized, from which it will, therefore, be seen that approximately 6,140 gallons, or 74%, of the milk sold for liquid consumption is heat-treated.

Ten years ago only about 300 gallons of milk were sold as pasteurised, whereas to-day the quantity is about 4,500 gallons daily. The quantity of milk sold as sterilized has remained fairly constant in the last ten years.

The quantity of milk retailed in the district as Tuberculin Tested is only about 293 gallons, or 3.55%, of the quantity sold for liquid consumption.

Most of the milk consumed in Plymouth is produced outside the boundaries of the City, the number of cowkeepers within the City at the end of 1938 being 7.

The following is a summary of the number of persons registered for carrying on the trade of cowkeepers or dairymen and of farms and other premises in the City which are registered for use as dairies:—

No. of persons registered for carrying on the	
trade of Cowkeeper ... ..	7
No. of farms which are used as Dairies ...	7
No. of other premises which are used as Dairies	243
No. of Cowsheds ... ..	21

*Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds.* During the year, 42 inspections of cowsheds and 1,215 inspections of dairy premises were made. Fifty-eight improvements were effected at various dairies.



### Examination of Milk for Bacterial Content and for Tubercle Bacilli.

*Bacterial Content.* Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination proceeded throughout the year, when a total of 914 samples were examined, of which 861 were found to be satisfactory and 53 in an unsatisfactory state of cleanliness. 51 of these unsatisfactory samples were ungraded milk.

*Designated Milk.* The following is a summary of the numbers of samples of designated milk submitted for examination during the year, and their results:—

	<i>No. Sub- mitted.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Not Satis- factory.</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	285	283	2
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ... ..	42	42	—
Accredited ... ..	16	16	—
Pasteurised ... ..	203	203*	—
TOTALS ... ..	546	544	2

\* No sample of Pasteurised Milk had a count of over 100,000 per m.l., but 20 samples contained B. Coli in 1/100 c.c.

*Ungraded Milk.* 568 samples of ungraded milk (including sterilized milk) were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, of which 51 were reported on unsatisfactorily. (All the samples of sterilized milk were found to be satisfactory.)

The standard adopted for ungraded milks is that a sample taken at any date after the 1st May to the 31st October is regarded as satisfying the methylene blue reduction test if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and a sample taken at any time from the 1st November to the 30th April shall be regarded as satisfying the test if it fails to decolourise the methylene blue in  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

In all cases where a sample of milk was reported upon unsatisfactorily, the matter was taken up with the dealer with a view to ascertaining the source of contamination.

*Tubercle Bacilli.* Fifty-four samples of milk were submitted for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli; all the samples gave negative results.

The following is a summary of the tests applied to the various samples of milk, and their results:—

Test	Total number submitted	TUBERCULIN TESTED ( <i>Certified</i> )			ACCREDITED			TUBERCULIN TESTED ( <i>Pasteurised</i> )			PASTEURISED			STERILIZED			UNGRADED		
		No. Sub.	*S.	Not S.	No. Sub.	S.	Not S.	No. Sub.	S.	Not S.	No. Sub.	S.	Not S.	No. Sub.	S.	Not S.	No. Sub.	S.	Not S.
B. Coli ...	297	39	39	—	3	3	—	42	42	—	203	183	20	8	8	—	2	1	1
Methylene Blue ...	661	285	283	2	16	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	360	310	50
Bacterial Count ...	295	39	39	—	3	3	—	42	42	—	201	201	—	8	8	—	2	2	—
Animal Innocula- tion for T.B. ...	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	48	48	—
Phosphotase ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*S=Satisfactory.

In following up the presence of B. Coli in 1/100 c.c. in bottled pasteurised milk, tests were carried out to ascertain if this was caused by the use of improperly washed bottles. Cleaned bottles were obtained, and these were rinsed with sterile water. In the first case B. Coli was present in 1 c.c., subsequent bottles showed no B. Coli in 2 c.c.'s.

The table below shows the number of licences to use the various designations applied to milk by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, which were in force at the end of the year:—

<i>Description of Licence.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Pasteuriser's licences ... ..	4
Retail Pasteurised licences ... ..	4
Retail Tuberculin Tested licences ... ..	31
Retail Accredited licence ... ..	1
TOTAL ... ..	40

**Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.** For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Order, the Sanitary Inspectors have made 1,215 inspections of dairy premises and generally advised dairymen on methods to be adopted for the purpose of preventing contamination of milk.

In five cases it was necessary to institute proceedings in connection with offences against the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, some details of which are as follows:—

<i>Case</i>	<i>Offence</i>	<i>Result of Proceedings</i>
1	Conveying articles likely to contaminate milk in vehicle used for conveying milk ... ..	Fined £1.
2	Ditto ditto ... ..	Fined £1.
3	Bottling milk in the street ...	Fined 10/—
4	Milk churn not so constructed or fitted as effectively to prevent access of dirt, dust or rainwater ...	Dismissed under Probation of Offenders Act, 1907, on payment of costs.
5	Bottling milk in the street ...	Fined £1.

**Inspections of Meat and Slaughterhouses** There are seven private slaughterhouses in the City, and these were visited on 7,416 occasions during the year.

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.* The total number of carcasses inspected at the Meat Market and in the private slaughterhouses during the year was 230,598, which were made up as follows:—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	34,672
Sheep and Lambs			...	...	152,518
Calves	...	...	...	...	1,867
Pigs	...	...	...	...	41,541

The total weight of meat and offal condemned during the year from animals killed inside and outside the City was 230 tons 6 cwts. 1 qr. This amount was made up as follows:—

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>		<i>Cows</i>		<i>Calves</i>		<i>Sheep</i>		<i>Pigs</i>	
	<i>City</i>	<i>Coun- try</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Coun- try</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Coun- try</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Coun- try</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Coun- try</i>
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS. Whole carcasses	1	11	76	149	1	80	87	303	26	143
No. of parts or organs condemned ...	51	46	2940	2919	1	191	365	1193	179	634
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses	4	3	198	28	—	1	—	—	1	82
No. of parts or organs condemned ...	77	42	4254	2300	—	—	—	—	104	4044



The following is a summary of carcasses of animals, killed in the City, inspected and condemned:—

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ... ..	3414	7197	409	17439	1889
Number inspected ... ..	3414	7197	409	17439	1889
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	76	1	87	26
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	51	980	1	365	179
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	1·52%	14·67%	·48%	2·59%	10·85%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	198	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	77	2127	—	—	104
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis ... ..	2·37%	32·30%	—	—	5·55%

The following is a summary of carcasses of animals, killed outside the City, inspected and condemned:—

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...		Not known			
Number inspected ... ..	18396		1458	78136	39630
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	11	149	80	303	143
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	46	1458	191	1193	634
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	·3%	8·73%	18%	1·9%	1·9%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	28	1	—	82
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	42	1150	—	—	4044
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis ... ..	·24%	6·4%	·06%	—	10·4%

**Meat and  
Other Foods**

The following table indicates the numbers of inspections made of the various premises where food is stored or prepared:—

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>No. of Inspections.</i>
Slaughterhouses ... ..	7,416
English Meat shops ... ..	412
Foreign Meat shops ... ..	29
General Provision shops ... ..	323
Fruit and Vegetable shops ... ..	487
Fish shops ... ..	807
Fried Fish and Chip shops ... ..	103
Ice Cream premises ... ..	12
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	1,215
Markets ... ..	49
Cowsheds ... ..	42
Stores and Vehicles ... ..	236
Bakehouses ... ..	118
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>11,249</b>

Arising out of these inspections, the following foodstuffs were condemned and destroyed:—

**FRUIT—**

	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Chestnuts ... ..	5	3	21
Pears ... ..	1335 in number		
Tomatoes ... ..	1	0	8

**PROVISIONS—**

Beef ... ..	2	0	25½
Pork ... ..	29	1	26
Pigs' Heads ... ..	8	0	11
Pigs' Liver ... ..	0	0	17
Roast Pork ... ..	0	0	5½
Turkey ... ..	0	0	11
Ox Lights ... ..	0	0	9
Offal ... ..	0	0	13

**TINNED GOODS—**

Tongue ... ..	0	1	14
Beef ... ..	2	0	8
Lunch Tongue ... ..	0	2	13
Ham ... ..	0	1	2
Veal ... ..	0	0	12

**Fish  
Inspection**

The wholesale fish market is situated at the Barbican and is owned by the Sutton Harbour Improvement Company. In common with many fishing centres, Plymouth has experienced a decline in the number of trawlers, etc., engaged in the fishing industry. This has led in recent years to an increase in the quantity of fish sent by rail, to be sold by the local fish salesmen. Plymouth sends supplies of certain classes of fish to Billingsgate and other markets. With the exception of shellfish, approximately 90 per cent. of fish condemned is that sent by rail.

The following summary indicates the quantity of fish and shellfish inspected and condemned during the year:—

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Fish inspected	...	...	...	...	3013	16	0	0
Fish condemned (various)	...	...	...	...	15	5	2	22
Smoked Fish condemned	...	...	...	...	0	9	3	25
Chilled Salmon condemned	...	...	...	...	0	0	2	0
Shellfish condemned—								
Queens	...	...	...	...	0	8	0	0
Escallops	...	...	...	...	0	0	3	0
Irish Prawns	...	...	...	...	0	2	0	0
Crayfish Tails (imported)	...	...	...	...	0	0	1	2
Crabs	...	...	...	...	3380 in number			
Crayfish	...	...	...	...	68	,,		
Lobsters	...	...	...	...	67	,,		
Mussels	...	...	...	...	1 gallon			
Cockles	...	...	...	...	6 gallons			
Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934—								
Visits paid to gathering grounds					32			
Shellfish surrendered by pickers—								
Periwinkles	...	...	...	...	20 gallons			
Cockles	...	...	...	...	8	,,		

*The Fish Market.* During the year the Sutton Harbour Improvement Company, Trawler Owners and Fish Salesmen have been requested by this department to make certain improvements regarding the landing and disposal of fish.

The fish quay is used as a promenade by fishermen and other persons residing in the vicinity of the market, and the trawler owners and fish salesmen have been requested to avoid depositing



fish on the ground and to provide kits and boxes for this purpose, and there is reason to believe that improvements in this direction will be effected. A useful purpose would be served if a part of the market could be set aside for the use of fishmongers and hawkers for the gutting, scraping and washing of fish, and the Sutton Harbour Improvement Company are being approached with a view to this end.

At the request of this department the Sutton Harbour Improvement Company has provided additional taps on the market in order that a supply of clean water may be obtained for the cleansing of fish. In this connection the use of sea-water from the quay side for the washing of fish has been forbidden, as this water very often is dirty and polluted with oil.

*Removal of Fish Offal, etc.* The attention of the contractor employed in removing fish offal was directed to the unsuitable type of cart used, which resulted in the provision of a covered and water-tight vehicle for the purpose required.

Arrangements were also made with the City Cleansing Department to remove condemned fish to the destructor in portable covered bins, thus avoiding the use of the lorries engaged in the removal of house refuse. Clean bins are provided daily when the collection of offal is made, thereby preventing the occurrence of a nuisance from this source.

**Merchandise Marks Acts and Orders.** 839 visits to shops were made during the year in connection with the marking of foods to which the Orders refer. In several instances it was necessary to call vendors' attention to the necessity for providing "indications of origin" of certain foods.

**Adulteration, etc.** The various samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis during the year are classified in the following table, together with the numbers of the various articles which were found to be adulterated:—

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS  
ADULTERATION ACT.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Official Samples</i>		<i>Informal Samples</i>		<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adul- terated</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adul- terated</i>	
Baking Powder ...	—	—	6	—	6
Brandy ...	—	—	5	—	5
Beer ...	—	—	37	8	45
Butter ...	5	—	28	—	33
Candied Peel ...	—	—	5	—	5
Camphorated Oil ...	—	—	4	—	4
Castor Oil ...	—	—	4	—	4
Cheese ...	—	—	6	—	6
Cocoa ...	—	—	6	—	6
Coffee ...	—	—	5	—	5
Coffee and Chicory ...	—	—	4	—	4
Condensed Milk ...	—	—	6	—	6
Cream ...	—	—	12	—	12
Custard Powder ...	—	—	4	—	4
Cordials ...	—	—	4	—	4
Currants ...	—	—	1	—	1
Dried Fruits ...	—	—	5	—	5
Dripping ...	—	—	6	—	6
Flour ...	—	—	6	—	6
Ground Spices ...	—	—	5	—	5
Gin ...	—	—	2	1	3
Ground Almonds ...	—	—	5	—	5
Glycerine ...	—	—	5	—	5
Honey ...	—	—	1	—	1
Honey Dessert ...	—	—	1	—	1
Iodine Paint ...	—	—	1	—	1
Jams ...	—	—	6	—	6
Lard ...	—	—	5	—	5
Lard Substitute ...	—	—	1	—	1
Lemon Cheese ...	—	—	5	—	5
Lemonade Powder ...	—	—	6	—	6
Minced Beef ...	—	—	6	—	6
Margarine ...	—	—	7	—	7
Marmalade ...	—	—	6	—	6
Meat and Fish Pastes ...	—	—	6	—	6
Mincemeat ...	—	—	6	—	6
Malt Vinegar ...	—	—	3	—	3
Olive Oil ...	—	—	6	—	6
Orange Curd ...	—	—	1	—	1
Pasteurised Milk ...	29	—	—	—	29
Pearl Barley ...	—	—	5	—	5
Pepper ...	—	—	4	—	4
Raw Milk ...	251	22	—	—	273
Rum ...	—	—	6	—	6
Sultanas ...	—	—	5	—	5
Saugages ...	—	—	6	—	6
Skimmed Milk ...	24	3	—	—	27
Self-Raising Flour ...	—	—	6	—	6
Sauce ...	—	—	6	—	6
Suet ...	—	—	4	—	4
Sterilized Milk ...	2	—	—	—	2
Tinned Cream ...	—	—	12	—	12
Tinct. of Iodine ...	—	—	4	1	5
Tea ...	—	—	5	—	5
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk ...	8	—	—	—	8
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk ...	3	—	—	—	3
Water ...	—	—	3	—	3
Wort ...	—	—	2	—	2
Whiskey ...	—	—	4	—	4
TOTALS ...	322	25	310	10	667



### *Summary of Legal Proceedings.*

The results of prosecutions undertaken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, in regard to samples obtained during the year, are summarised in the following table:—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Result of Prosecution</i>
24	Raw Milk ...	2% added water, and further was 12% def. in fat	Fined £1.
25	„ ...	8% added water, and further was 14% def. in fat	Fined £1.
26	„ ...	6% added water	Fined £1.
47	„ ...	8% def. in fat ...	Fined £2.
97	„ ...	23% added water	Fined £2.
170	Skimmed Milk	13% „ ...	Dismissed on payment of costs, including analyst's fee.
185	Raw Milk ...	7% „ ...	Fined £2.
344	„ ...	15% def. in fat ...	Dismissed on payment of costs, including analyst's fee.
359	„ ...	17% „ ...	Fined £2.
360	„ ...	17% „ ...	Fined £2.
416	„ ...	15% „ ...	Fined £2.
468	„ ...	11% „ ...	Fined 10/—, plus analyst's fee.
469	„ ...	30% „ ...	do.
612	„ ...	40% „ ...	Fined £2.
662	„ ...	18% added water	Fined £5.
663	„ ...	19% „ ...	Fined £5.
664	„ ...	16% „ ...	Fined £5.
665	„ ...	13% „ ...	Fined £5.

In 7 cases a warning letter was sent by the Town Clerk.

In addition to the samples sent for analysis by the Public Analyst, 231 samples of raw milk and 65 samples of skimmed milk were obtained and examined by the Sanitary Inspector by means of the Gerber Test.



*Lead in Beer.* Of the 45 samples of beer taken during the year, 20 were certified by the Public Analyst to contain lead in the proportions shown in the following summary:—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Quantity of Lead present</i>
240	0·6 part per million
277	0·2        „        „
298	0·3        „        „
299	0·2        „        „
322	0·4        „        „
518	0·2        „        „
569	0·2        „        „
570	0·2        „        „
571	0·2        „        „
577	0·2        „        „
578	0·1        „        „
580	0·1        „        „
581	0·1        „        „
589	0·4        „        „
590	0·3        „        „
591	0·3        „        „
593	0·3        „        „
594	0·2        „        „
595	0·4        „        „
596	0·2        „        „

Samples of beer were, in the first instance, taken from six public-houses in the City, and in all cases but one the beer was certified to be free from lead. In the case of one public-house, however, a sample numbered 240 was certified by the Public Analyst to contain lead to the extent of 0·6 part per million. The presence of lead in beer to this extent was regarded as rendering the beer injurious to health, and steps were taken with a view to ascertaining the source of contamination.

Six further samples were taken at the public-house, three of these being obtained from pumps and the other three from the barrels to which these pumps were connected. Five of these samples proved to be free from lead, but sample numbered 277, which had passed through a pump, contained less than 0.2 part per million of lead.

In view of the fact that this sample contained lead, although the sample taken directly from the same cask as that from which sample No. 277 had been taken contained no lead, it was assumed that contamination was taking place within the pump. Eventually a "hop trap" (a device used for straining small particles of hops from the beer) in which solder had been used in the making, was removed from the barrel of the pump. After this had been done, four further samples were taken from the cask and the pump during ordinary service, and from the cask and pump after the beer had been standing overnight. All four samples were free from lead.

Further investigations were made at the brewery and samples were taken at various stages of the process of brewing. During the course of these investigations a short length of lead pipe was found on the brewery's water service main. This was removed, and samples taken later showed the water to be free from lead.

The limit above which the presence of lead might be said to be harmful and below which it might be regarded as harmless, has not been set because it cannot be said with certainty that the presence of the smallest amount of lead in any food would be without some unfavourable effect. In this connection it should be borne in mind that minute quantities of lead in a large number of different foodstuffs might in the aggregate reach an amount which could have serious significance. It is necessary to ensure a diet as free from lead as can possibly be attained; therefore if it is possible to produce beer or any other food free from lead, it should be so produced.

**Fertilizers and  
Feeding Stuffs  
Act, 1926.**

The following is a summary of the samples of Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs obtained during the year:—

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. obtained</i>	<i>No. of unsatis- factory samples</i>	<i>Observations on Irregularities (if any)</i>
Vine, Plant and Vegetable Manure ...	1	1	Composition of sample did not agree with Statutory Statement, the excess of certain ingredients being greater than the limits of variation.
Bone Meal ...	1	1	Composition of sample did not agree with Statutory Statement, Phos. Acid ( $P_2O_5$ ) being 23.5% in defect, this deficiency being greater than the limit of variation. The Statutory Statement did not give the percentage of Nitrogen as such.
Flaked Maize ...	1	1	Sample not accompanied by Statutory Statement.
Maize Meal ...	1	—	Genuine.

In the cases where irregularities occurred the persons responsible were communicated with and agreed to take steps necessary to comply with the requirements.

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## Infectious Diseases

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## Infectious Diseases.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The accompanying tables (pages 95A and 95B) and remarks give the prevalence of infectious diseases during the year, together with the age and ward distribution. The numbers treated in hospital are also shown. The total number of notifications during the year was 1,581, as compared with 1,381 in 1937.

*Scarlet Fever.* The incidence of Scarlet Fever was high during the last quarter of 1937, and this high rate was maintained over the first half of 1938. After that period there was a steady decrease in the number of cases, and the disease appeared to be of a mild type. 398 cases (81%) were treated in hospital. In my opinion, this figure is unnecessarily high and prevents the use of hospital accommodation for such diseases as measles and whooping cough.

*Diphtheria.* There were 357 cases notified as suffering from Diphtheria, but the diagnosis was revised in 83 cases. The disease was most prevalent in the winter months, but did not present any particular clinical features. There were no serious localised epidemics. Details of immunisation will be found in the appropriate table.

*Enteric Fever.* Six cases of Enteric Fever were notified. Four of these occurred in one family. The mother of this family was admitted to hospital suffering from a severe attack of enteric fever. Routine investigation of the family contacts revealed three more ambulant cases, who were also removed to hospital.

*Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.* In the early part of the year there was a severe epidemic of measles and many of the cases were seriously ill. Twenty-six deaths were attributed to measles or its complications. This compares with 13 deaths from diphtheria. Unfortunately, measles is still regarded in many homes as a comparatively minor disease, and medical attention is frequently not sought until complications are well established. Measles is responsible for a great deal of ill-health, more especially when it attacks debilitated children.

Placental extract has proved to produce an effective modification of the disease in hospital practice.

*Cerebro - Spinal Fever.* There were 7 notifications of the disease, of which 4 were admitted to the Isolation Hospital. In all there were 3 deaths.

*Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.* Only one case was notified during the year.

*Influenza.* Five deaths were registered during the year, as compared with 35 in 1937. There was no evidence of an epidemic of influenza, although there was a seasonal increase in respiratory catarrh during the first quarter of the year. 148 deaths were attributed to bronchitis (198 in 1937) and 212 to pneumonia (189 previous year). Thirty-five deaths from pneumonia occurred in children under the age of one year, and many of them were the sequelæ of an attack of measles.

## THE CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL, PLYMOUTH.

### REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

#### **General Remarks**

The City Isolation Hospital is an Institution of 180 beds used for the treatment of infectious diseases occurring in the City. Cases of notifiable infectious disease are admitted from outside authorities when accommodation is available for them, on payment of full maintenance and transport costs. In addition, there is an agreement with the local authorities of Torpoint, Saltash and St. Germans whereby a total of thirteen beds are available at any time for the treatment of infectious disease occurring in these districts.

As before, the chief diseases treated in the hospital are diphtheria and scarlet fever; but the cubicle blocks have been full to capacity during the year with many other diseases, such as acute anterior poliomyelitis, typhoid, meningitis, erysipelas, pemphigus and cases for observation.

The new cubicle block, alluded to in the last Annual Report, was opened on May 11th, 1938, and has done much to remedy the shortage of cubicle beds from which the hospital previously suffered. Every effort has always been made to admit cases of measles and whooping cough with complications, and this has been done to a greater extent than ever this year. It has been possible to offer beds to most of the severe cases during the year at the request of the doctors in attendance.

Electric crockery sterilisers have been installed in the old cubicle blocks to bring them in line with the new block, and have proved entirely satisfactory.

In common with other Infectious Disease Hospitals throughout the country, the acute shortage of Nursing Staff has continued. During the busy part of the year it was again found necessary to engage a number of private nurses. A new salary scale and establishment for this hospital was introduced by the City Council on December 1st, 1938, and it is hoped that this will ensure a greater number of applicants in the future.

It has been suggested that parents are unwilling to allow their daughters to become Probationers in Isolation Hospitals owing to the risk of them contracting one or other of the infectious diseases. It is interesting to note that during the whole year only two mild cases of scarlet fever occurred amongst the Nursing Staff—a record which might compare very favourably with many “general” hospitals.

Owing to the increase in size of the hospital and greater turn-over of patients it was found necessary to appoint a Resident Assistant Medical Officer, and quarters were provided for him in the Administrative block.

During the year, 45 consultations were made at the homes of patients at the request of Medical Practitioners in the district, and 4,838 pathological specimens were sent for examination at the central laboratory, as follows:—

Swabs	...	...	...	...	4,635
Fæces	...	...	...	...	44
Urines	...	...	...	...	39
Slides	...	...	...	...	39
Bloods	...	...	...	...	32
Cerebro-spinal fluids			...	...	23
Other examinations			...	...	26

Scarlet Fever

The total number of cases admitted was 485, an increase of 87 over the previous year. The disease continued to be mild, and severe cases were uncommon. The average stay in hospital was 33.1 days.

As before, serum therapy is confined to those cases showing high temperature, marked faucial involvement, profuse nasal discharge or obvious toxæmia.



417 City cases were treated in the hospital: an increase of 48 over last year.

The diagnosis was amended in the following cases:—

Toxic erythema and scabies	...	...	...	3
Toxic erythema	...	...	...	12
Measles	...	...	...	4
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	6
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
Napkin rash	...	...	...	1
Erythema fugax	...	...	...	1

Of the total number of cases admitted to hospital, 8 were found to be suffering from diphtheria as well as scarlet fever, 5 were incubating measles, 2 whooping cough and 2 chicken-pox.

The number of return cases, i.e., cases from the same family notified within 28 days of the discharge of a patient; was 7; a return case rate of 1.4 per cent.

#### *Outside City Cases.*

The following cases of scarlet fever were admitted from the undermentioned districts:—

				<i>Admissions.</i>	<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Plympton	...	...	24	{	1 Measles, 1 Rubella, 1 Scarlet Fever & Measles, 1 Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough.
Torpoint	...	...	8		
Saltash	...	...	5		
Tavistock R.D.C.	...	...	13		1 N.A.D. 1 also had K.L.B. —Rhinorrhoea.
Tavistock U.D.C.	...	...	3		
Kingsbridge R.D.C.	...	...	1		
Kingsbridge U.D.C.	...	...	3		1 Toxic Erythema.
St. Germans R.D.C.	...	...	10		1 Tonsillitis.
Wadebridge R.D.C.	...	...	1		
				—	
Total	...	...	68		
				==	

The total number of cases admitted as scarlet fever and treated at Swilly were:—

Plymouth Residents	...	...	417
Outside City cases	...	...	68
			<hr/>
			485
			<hr/>

Of these, 31 Plymouth and 7 Outside City cases proved not to be scarlet fever.

**Diphtheria**            There was a slight increase in the number of cases treated in the hospital during the year—389, as against 319 in 1937.

Generally speaking, the disease was of a mild type, but many severe cases occurred.

After deducting cases which proved to be diseases other than diphtheria, the death-rate was 5.7 per cent., approximately the same as the year before.

The routine swabbing of all cases on admission has ceased. Each case is judged on its history and clinical merits, and swabbing is reserved for doubtful cases and those about to be discharged from hospital, chiefly for its medico-legal aspect rather than for any practical purpose.

360 Plymouth cases were treated at the hospital and 29 outside cases, as under:—

<i>Admissions.</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Plympton	...	...	7	3 Tonsillitis.
Outside Military	...	...	2	
Torpoint	...	...	2	
St. Germans R.D.C.	...	...	2	1 Measles.
				1 Scarlet Fever, 1 Toxic-Scarlet Fever.
Liskeard	...	...	2	
Camelford	...	...	2	
Wadebridge	...	...	2	
Launceston	...	...	1	
Tavistock R.D.C.	...	...	6	1 Measles.
Kingsbridge R.D.C.	...	...	2	
St. Austell U.D.C.	...	...	1	
			<hr/>	
Total	...		29	
			<hr/>	

*Disproved Diagnosis.*—After observation, the diagnosis was altered in the following Plymouth cases:—

Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	35
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	18
Catarrhal Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	6
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	4
Quinsy	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stomatitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Acute Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Streptococcal sore throat	...	...	...	...	...	3
Follicular tonsillitis and measles	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coryza	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nothing abnormal	...	...	...	...	...	1
Alveolar abscess	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vincent's Angina	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mumps and Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition, 2 cases were found to be suffering coincidentally from measles, 10 from scarlet fever, and 1 from erysipelas.

There was one return case.

*Complications.*

Adenitis	...	...	...	...	...	20
Palatal Paresis	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cardiac	...	...	...	...	...	11
Otorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rhinorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ocular Paresis	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	...	2
Alveolar Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dermatitis herpetiformis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	1
Streptococcal Empyema	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Palsies	...	...	...	...	...	1

*Laryngeal Diphtheria.*—Twenty-nine cases were notified, an increase of 18 over last year. Of these cases, 14 were suffering from laryngitis other than diphtheritic.

Of the 15 true cases—

ONE had tracheotomy performed at the Prince of Wales's Hospital before admission and died the same day. THREE other cases required tracheotomy. All died subsequently. All three were hopeless cases from the start, and operation was only carried out to relieve the distressing symptoms of laryngeal obstruction.

*Deaths from Diphtheria.*—13 Plymouth cases and 4 from outside areas died as a result of diphtheria during the year, a mortality of 5.7 per cent.

#### Other Diseases

Good use was made of all three cubicle blocks during the year, and 103 Plymouth cases and 12 outside the area cases of miscellaneous disease were treated as shown in the following table.

This is an increase of 37 cases over the previous year.

*PLYMOUTH cases notified, admitted and treated as follows:—*

<i>Admitted as—</i>			<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>	
Typhoid	...	...	7	Paratyphoid B., 1; Lobar Pneumonia, 2.
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis			6	Measles, 1; T.B. Meningitis, 1.
Acute Poliomyelitis and Encephalitis	...	...	3	Post-Diphtheritic Paresis, 1.
Measles	...	...	9	Rubella, 1.
Measles and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	11	{ Measles, 5; Measles and Pertussis, 1; Measles and Nasal Diphtheria, 1; Measles and Bronchitis, 1.
Measles and Pertussis	...		3	{ Measles and Bronchitis, 1; Measles, Pertussis and Bronchiectasis, 1; Broncho-pneumonia and Pertussis, 1.
Measles and cervical Adenitis	...	...	1	
Measles and cellulitis of eye	...	...	1	Measles and styne, 1.
Pertussis	...	...	7	
Pertussis and broncho-pneumonia	...	...	5	Bronchitis, 1; Pertussis, 2.
Pertussis and Bronchitis			1	Pertussis and Broncho-pneu., 1.



<i>Admitted as—</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Chicken Pox	...	...	2	
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	2	Bronchitis, 1.
Tonsillitis	...	...	11	Acute Rheumatism, 1; Scarlet Fever, 1.
Rheumatism	...	...	1	
Mumps	...	...	2	Streptococcal cervical Adenitis, 1; Infective Parotitis, 1.
Bacillary Dysentery	...	...	3	
Pemphigus	...	...	6	Umbilical Sepsis, 1; Bullous Impetigo, 1.
Gastro-enteritis	...	...	2	K.L.B. Rhinorrhœa and toxic erythema, 1.
Septic knee	...	...	1	
Septic finger	...	...	1	
Scalds	...	...	2	
For Bacteriological investigation	...	...	1	
Erysipelas	...	...	12	Acute Eczema, 1.
Baby with Mother	...	...	1	
Mothers with Babies	...	...	2	
<hr/>				
103				
<hr/>				

Outside the district cases were notified, admitted and treated as follows:—

<i>Admitted as—</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Acute Policmyelitis	...	...	4	Cerebral Tumour, 1; Pneumococcal-Meningitis, 1.
Paratyphoid B.	...	...	1	Broncho-pneumonia, 1.
(?) Typhoid	...	...	1	Enteritis, 1.
Vincent's Angina	...	...	1	Stomatitis, 1.
Pertussis	...	...	2	
Erysipelas	...	...	1	
Chicken Pox	...	...	1	
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	1	
<hr/>				
12				
<hr/>				

Deaths from other Diseases :—

Plymouth cases	...	...	...	...	15
Outside Area cases	...	...	...	...	3
					—
					18
					==

1. *Plymouth Cases.*

Primary Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	4
Pertussis	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	2
Measles and Pertussis	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	1
Pemphigus neonatorum	...	...	...	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Thrombosis	...	...	...	1
Lobar Pneumonia	...	...	...	1

2. *Outside Districts.*

Primary Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	1
Primary-pneumococcal Meningitis	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	1

NOTES ON THE TREATMENT OF CEREBRO-SPINAL (MENINGOCOCCAL) MENINGITIS, ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND TYPHOID FEVER.

*Cerebro-Spinal (Meningococcal) Meningitis.*

Five true cases of the disease were treated, with only one death. Two cases were treated with meningococcus Anti-toxin, anti-meningococcal serum and sulphanilamide.

The serum was given intrathecally, intraperitoneally, and intramuscularly. Both cases were very young, 6 months and 1 year respectively. The latter died.

Encouraging reports on the treatment of this disease by Sulphanilylaminopyridine (M. & B. 693) decided me to try this method on future occasions. It was used as the sole method of treatment in the next three cases. All were extremely ill on admission, and one man aged 22 years was in a state of acute mania on arrival at the hospital. The ages of the other two were 4½ years

and 2 years 9 months. The following routine treatment was carried out, with modification of dosage according to age:—

1. Daily lumbar puncture.
2. Intramuscular injection of Soluseptasine (M. & B. 137), followed by three-hourly oral administration of M. & B. 693 in maximum doses for approximately five days. Thereafter the drug was administered three times a day for two days and then gradually reduced. No toxic symptoms were noted except slight cyanosis in one case, which rapidly cleared up on reducing the dose.

All made rapid and complete recovery. At the time these cases were in hospital, no parenteral preparation of M. & B. 693 was available. Soluseptasine (M. & B. 137) was therefore given intramuscularly in order to bring the patient under the influence of Sulphanilamide as quickly as possible. There is some doubt as to whether Soluseptasine is of great value against meningococcal infections, but nevertheless it was thought wise to give the patient the benefit of the doubt. In all probability, M. & B. 693 is absorbed so quickly that they would have done as well without the intramuscular injection at the start.

Since these cases have been treated, a soluble preparation of M. & B. 693 has become available and should be invaluable in the treatment of these cases at the immediate onset and where oral administration is difficult or impossible.

The results have been so satisfactory that I believe this to be the method of choice in the treatment of this disease, but a larger series will have to be treated before it is possible to arrive at a definite conclusion.

#### *Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis.*

Four cases were treated. There was one recovery. Three of these cases were very ill on admission: two with cerebral symptoms and one with an extensive spreading paralysis, which eventually involved the muscles of respiration. In spite of continuous treatment in a mechanical respirator, she died four days later.

The case which recovered had an extensive paralysis of the right shoulder girdle and right upper extremity. After treatment in plaster, she was transferred to an orthopædic hospital and was given a good prognosis by the Surgeon in charge.

### *Typhoid.*

Four cases from one family were admitted for treatment. There was one case of Paratyphoid B.

All of these cases made a good recovery and were mild, with one exception. The latter was very ill, but eventually recovered completely.

### VACCINATION.

The following table gives details of vaccinations carried out during the past six years:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Primary vaccinations</i>	<i>Percentage of Children vaccinated</i>	<i>Re- vaccinations</i>
1933 ....	3232	1325	41·0	17
1934 ....	3203	1371	42·8	9
1935 ....	3065	1270	41·4	18
1936 ....	3061	1348	44·0	24
1937 ....	3325	1262	37·9	12
1938 ....	3617	1396	38·6	10



# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Year	Completed Course of Injections	SCHICK TESTS AFTER COURSE OF INJECTIONS						RE-SCHICK TESTS		IMMUNISED AND SCHICK NEGATIVE CHILDREN REPORTED TO HAVE CONTRACTED DIPHTHERIA
		Carried Out	Not Read	Nega- tive	Positive	Per cent. Positive	No.	Nega- tive	Confirmed	
1927	330	264	11	231	22	9	11	11	—	—
1928	296	56	—	50	6	12	6	6	1	3
1929	390	458	—	333	125	27	76	76	—	2
1930	444	511	23	434	54	10	24	24	—	—
1931	1282	527	2	486	39	8	28	28	—	—
1932	1107	1137	10	1008	119	9	43	43	1	—
1933	972	997	9	906	82	8	58	55	3	4
1934	(a) 335	330	9	314	7	2	4	4	—	5
1934	(b) 363	324	17	289	18	5	11	11	—	8
1935	(a) 874	830	28	791	11	1·3	8	8	—	9
1935	(b) 1244	1300	108	1149	43	3·3	10	10	2	5
1936	(a) 662	641	28	609	4	0·65	2	2	3	5
1936	(b) 1104	779	52	702	25	3·4	—	—	4	3
								(c) 3	3	—
1937	(a) 500	506	18	469	19	3·8	11	8	3	—
1937	(b) 1035	1004	69	904	31	3·3	1	1	3	—
1938	(a) 430	300	12	273	15	5·2	10	10	5	5
1938	(b) 707	928	56	844	28	3·2	9	9	6	4
Totals ...	12075	10892	452	9792	648	6·2	312	306	34	53

# DEATHS FROM DIPHTHERIA, SCARLET FEVER, MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

IN THE PERIOD 1920—1938.

SHOWING DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ESTIMATED POPULATION.

Year	Population (Estimated)	DIPHTHERIA			SCARLET FEVER			MEASLES			WHOOPING-COUGH		
		No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns
1920	189,218	37	0.19	0.16	1	0.005	0.04	35	0.18	0.22	33	0.17	0.14
1921	199,860	13	0.06	0.15	5	0.02	0.04	3	0.01	0.08	11	0.05	0.13
1922	200,370	15	0.07	0.13	3	0.01	0.05	46	0.22	0.22	21	0.10	0.19
1923	211,500	11	0.05	0.09	1	0.004	0.03	6	0.028	0.15	8	0.037	0.11
1924	206,600	22	0.10	0.08	1	0.004	0.03	26	0.09	0.18	31	0.15	0.24
1925	211,078	8	0.03	0.08	3	0.01	0.03	3	0.01	0.17	15	0.07	0.18
1926	211,350	34	0.16	0.10	2	0.009	0.02	19	0.09	0.12	14	0.06	0.10
1927	211,650	23	0.10	0.08	4	0.01	0.02	1	0.004	0.11	13	0.06	0.10
1928	211,980	32	0.15	0.09	2	0.009	0.02	78	0.36	0.15	5	0.02	0.04
1929	213,500	26	0.12	0.09	4	0.01	0.02	4	0.01	0.12	23	0.10	0.19
1930	215,000	21	0.09	0.09	6	0.02	0.02	29	0.13	0.14	4	0.01	0.05
1931	208,166	17	0.08	0.07	3	0.01	0.01	3	0.01	0.10	11	0.05	0.07
1932	208,440	20	0.09	0.07	10	0.04	0.02	6	0.02	0.11	16	0.07	0.08
1933	206,200	18	0.08	0.08	3	0.01	0.02	14	0.06	0.06	14	0.06	0.06
1934	203,450	15	0.07	0.12	2	0.009	0.02	14	0.06	0.12	17	0.08	0.06
1935	203,600	23	0.11	0.09	1	0.004	0.01	6	0.029	0.04	3	0.014	0.04
1936	206,400	40	0.19	0.08	1	0.004	0.01	4	0.01	0.09	19	0.09	0.06
1937	210,460	17	0.08	0.08	1	0.004	0.01	1	0.004	0.03	3	0.01	0.04
1938	211,800	15	0.07	0.07	—	—	0.01	26	0.12	0.05	12	0.05	0.03





INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1938—AGE GROUPS.

Diseases.	Total Civilian Cases	0-1 years.	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 years up.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Admitted to Swilly Hospital.	Isolated at Home.	Other Hospitals or Nursing Homes	Naval
Small-Pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	489	1	11	15	27	38	224	103	30	33	7	—	—	123	136	127	103	397	92	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	357	7	11	16	27	35	150	54	21	33	2	1	—	100	59	80	118	354	3	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	4	1	1	—	5	—	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	309	31	27	14	15	15	33	6	15	42	37	56	18	138	70	28	73	9	133	166	10
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	54	8	—	—	14	17	19	16	—	10	56	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	7	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	4	—	3	5
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	3	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	19	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	3	6	—	See separate table		
Erysipelas ... ..	67	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	4	14	9	21	13	13	18	9	27	11	43	8	—
Summer Diarrhoea ... ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ... ..	1330	65	52	47	71	90	410	165	78	179	63	79	31	406	307	270	347	785	283	237	17

Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary—see separate table





## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1938. WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Diseases.	Compton.	Mutley.	Pennycross.	Laira.	Charles.	Friary.	Sutton.	Vintry.	Drake.	St. Andrew's.	St. Peter's.	Valletort.	Mount Edgcombe.	Molesworth.	St. Budeaux.	Ford.	Nelson.	Keyham.	St. Aubyn.	Stoke.	Plymouth	Devonport	Stonehouse	Total Civilian Cases	Total "Service" Cases
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	30	47	19	18	25	8	28	18	24	23	13	19	49	49	30	35	21	17	11	222	236	31	489	—
Diphtheria ... ..	3	2	11	13	22	19	12	33	41	13	38	27	31	11	28	9	14	6	17	7	222	97	38	357	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	4	6	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	14	20	13	14	8	6	29	7	4	25	22	33	12	28	12	10	16	23	7	152	116	41	309	10
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	4	4	—	14	—	—	1	3	2	4	3	15	2	4	—	5	3	2	—	30	23	13	66	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	4	7	5
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	4	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	2	2	—	4	—
Erysipelas ... ..	3	4	1	4	3	1	5	2	3	3	3	—	4	12	4	3	1	4	5	2	31	32	4	67	—
Summer Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	3	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ... ..	11	9	18	12	6	10	12	1	8	4	15	6	12	14	21	6	12	11	12	9	104	86	19	209	—
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	2	2	5	5	1	3	—	3	2	1	1	—	3	3	2	2	—	3	1	3	27	13	2	42	—
Totals ... ..	31	65	107	68	80	66	44	98	82	52	115	74	126	107	137	62	79	65	82	41	804	617	160	1581	17
Attack rate per 1,000 population, based on 1931 Census for Wards	4.1	7.7	8.1	5.8	7.4	6.1	4.7	8.7	8.5	6.7	9.9	8.4	12.5	7.5	22.7	6.3	7.1	4.5	5.5	6.0	7.3	7.3	12.0	7.4	—



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## Venereal Diseases

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# Venereal Diseases Department

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.

The figures of the year's work show a marked similarity to those of previous years, and the table gives a ready method of comparison over the last three years. There were 689 new cases dealt with during the year, and 17,775 attendances by individual patients.

## NEW CASES

Year	Syphilis				Chancroid				Gonorrhoea				Non-Venereal Disease				Totals			
	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals
1936	86	6	7	99	3	-	1	4	270	25	38	333	232	28	33	293	591	59	79	729
1937	85	7	7	99	5	-	1	6	247	27	38	312	256	17	24	297	593	51	70	714
1938	88	7	6	101	5	-	2	7	221	30	40	291	235	23	32	290	549	60	80	689

**Syphilis**                The figure for infectious syphilis still remains very low, 15 cases having been treated at the Clinic during the year. This is a slight rise over last year, when twelve cases only were treated. Even so, this is a remarkable figure for a garrison town with its large floating population.

**Chancroid**            Seven cases were noted during the year. All these responded well to treatment with drugs of the sulphanilamide group.

**Gonorrhoea**          The number of cases treated has been remarkably constant for a number of years. On the whole, patients attend very well, and defaulters—that is, patients who ceased to attend before completion of treatment—amounted to only 13.5%, a considerable reduction on previous years. Generally speaking, patients are gradually realising the seriousness of this disease and are anxious to complete the treatment and stay under medical supervision until discharged cured.

The treatment of this disease has undergone a revolutionary change since the original introduction of drugs of the sulphanilamide group. These have been greatly improved, and the placing of them on the D.D.A. Part 1, Schedule 4, has largely removed the apprehension which was felt when it was possible for patients to buy these drugs at any chemist's shop and indulge in self treatment, a highly dangerous practice with these particular compounds. Dietetic restrictions are necessary when taking these drugs, and every patient is given full instructions on a printed slip in order to avoid as far as possible any undesirable reactions.

Uleron (Messrs. Bayer) and M. & B. 693 (May & Baker) have proved considerably more effective than sulphanilamide alone. The first named is used in the subacute stage of the disease, i.e., the fourteenth day after onset, in three courses of four days at weekly intervals. This led to rapid improvement of symptoms and accelerated the normal rate of recovery. 71 cases were treated by this method, and I am convinced that this represented a distinct advance on the treatment previously given. Very few toxic symptoms were noted and these were of a minor character, chiefly headache, slight dizziness, and mild indigestion.

The use of M. & B. 693 in the latter part of the year appeared even more satisfactory. The technique and dosage were rather different. The drug was given in the acute stage, gramme doses three times a day for five days, then half-gramme doses three times a day for two days. This has proved sufficient in nearly all the cases in which the drug was used: 20 in all.

The effect was little short of dramatic. In many cases the discharge ceased in three or four days, and the average time from the acute stage until the cessation of all clinical signs was only nine days. Local treatment is given as usual, and patients are advised to attend for observation for a period of at least two months, during which, tests of cure are carried out. So far there have been no relapses, except in the case of one man who came back two months afterwards with what appeared to be a fresh infection.

The method is new, and a further series of cases will have to be treated before its true efficiency can be gauged. Published papers suggest that similar results have been obtained in many other Clinics.

These compounds are now being tried on women, and although definite improvement takes place, the action is not so rapid as in the male. Excellent results, however, have been obtained in gonococcal vaginitis in children.

**Non-Venereal** A study of the accompanying table shows that of the 689 new cases who attended for the first time, 290, or 42%, were found after investigation not to be suffering from venereal disease. This figure has been steadily rising since 1933 and shows that the public is well aware of the existing facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases and readily attend for general advice on sex hygiene.

Year		Number of New Cases	Number of cases Non-Venereal	Percentage of cases Which were Non-Venereal
1936	...	729	293	40%
1937	...	714	297	41%
1938	...	689	290	42%



**In-Patient  
Treatment**

Twelve beds are available for the treatment of venereal disease in men, women and children. During 1938, 67 cases were admitted. The type of case requiring in-patient treatment is:—

1. Acute infectious syphilis. Every effort is made to admit these patients and treat them until they are free from infection.
2. Patients living in remote parts where daily treatment is impossible.
3. Seamen: British and foreign.
4. Pregnant women suffering from infectious venereal disease.
5. Children with gonococcal vaginitis.

**Ophthalmia  
Neonatorum**

The scheme whereby these cases could be treated at the Royal Eye Infirmary worked smoothly throughout the year, and the arrangements have been renewed for another year. Fifteen cases were treated at the Royal Eye Infirmary—9 as in-patients and 6 as out-patients. In addition, 4 cases were treated in the in-patient department at the City Hospital Clinic. The results were good in every case, and no impairment of vision resulted.

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## Tuberculosis

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# Tuberculosis

## REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

**Notifications.** During the year 1938, 251 cases were notified. Of this number, 209 (120 males and 89 females) were certified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 42 (24 males and 18 females) were notified as suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The details of these notifications during the year are shown as follows :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
1—	2	—	4	1	—	—	2	2
5—	5	3	2	10	—	2	2	2
15—	26	33	10	4	11	17	4	3
25—	25	25	4	1	15	13	1	2
35—	29	12	1	—	14	14	—	1
45—	16	5	2	—	17	5	1	—
55—	11	8	1	—	11	7	2	1
65 and upwards	6	3	—	1	7	2	1	1
TOTALS ...	120	89	24	18	75	60	13	14

Of these notifications for the year 1938, 161 were diagnosed at the Tuberculosis Dispensary before notification, 20 were invalided from the Services, and 48 were notified from general hospitals in the City.



The numbers on the Notification Register at the end of the year were :—

PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL CASES
<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
495	418	913	142	158	300	1213

**Deaths.** There were 162 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, 135 (75 males and 60 females) being attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 27 (13 males and 14 females) due to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The number of deaths remains the same as in the previous year, but the rate per thousand of the population is fractionally less owing to an increase in the population.

The following table shews the number of primary notifications of tuberculosis and deaths from that disease, with the rate per 1,000 of the population, since the year 1930 :—

	NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non-Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>
1930 ...	252	76	328	1·52	167	33	200	0·93
1931 ...	320	62	382	1·83	157	38	195	0·93
1932 ...	273	70	343	1·64	162	31	193	0·92
1933 ...	253	58	311	1·50	163	15	178	0·86
1934 ...	246	63	309	1·51	177	31	208	1·02
1935 ...	217	54	271	1·33	114	30	144	0·70
1936 ...	204	51	255	1·23	125	27	152	0·73
1937 ...	225	52	277	1·31	147	15	162	0·76
1938 ...	209	42	251	1·18	135	27	162	0·764

There were 4 Posthumous Notifications during the year 1938. These were confined to Non-Pulmonary cases. This gives a percentage of 2·4.

The following table shows the prognosis of all new positive sputa cases who have been notified since 1930 :—

Year	Died during 1930-37	Died during 1938	Removed from area, "lost sight of," etc. 1930-37	Removed from area "lost sight of" etc. 1938.	Remaining on Register 1938.	Total
1930	82	—	28	1	19	130
1931	74	2	46	1	23	146
1932	99	4	29	4	31	167
1933	74	5	23	6	23	131
1934	71	8	13	1	19	112
1935	48	14	10	2	42	116
1936	54	3	5	4	48	114
1937	26	14	3	7	79	129
1938	—	32	—	5	62	99

**Dispensary.** There were 1,043 New Cases sent to the Dispensary by Medical Practitioners during the year. This is 50 more than in the previous year and constitutes a new record.

The following table shows the number of cases referred to the Tuberculosis Officer each year since 1930 and the number of contacts who have been examined for the same period, together with the result of the clinical examinations :—

Year	NEW CASES				CONTACTS			
	Total exam- ined	Defin- itely Tuberc.	Non- Tuberc.	Diagnosis not com- pleted	Total exam- ined	Defin- itely Tuberc.	Non- Tuberc.	Diagnosis not com- pleted
1930	662	268	201	193	841	8	781	52
1931	762	303	401	58	767	21	695	51
1932	770	288	402	80	844	10	792	42
1933	860	276	521	63	713	6	654	53
1934	913	256	561	96	862	17	759	86
1935	894	243	574	77	778	10	749	19
1936	881	231	559	91	427	8	386	33
1937	993	266	649	78	436	8	411	17
1938	1043	232	707	104	410	7	362	41

**Attendances.** The number of attendances of patients at the Tuberculosis Dispensaries during the year, excluding those who attended for X-Ray examination and which are included elsewhere, totalled 9,638.

Since 1930 the attendances have been as follows:—

1930	...	...	...	...	14,093
1931	...	...	...	...	13,490
1932	...	...	...	...	13,246
1933	...	...	...	...	12,635
1934	...	...	...	...	12,945
1935	...	...	...	...	12,408
1936	...	...	...	...	10,212
1937	...	...	...	...	10,665
1938	...	...	...	...	9,638

There were 27 cases of Artificial Pneumo-thorax who attended the Dispensary during 1938. The number of refills given amounted to 243.

*Evening Session.* This clinic, which is held regularly throughout the year for the convenience of patients who are at work during the daytime, is still greatly appreciated and well attended.

**Domiciliary Visiting.** *Tuberculosis Officer.* The Tuberculosis Officer paid 568 domiciliary visits to patients in their homes during the year.

*Nurses and Health Visitors.* The Nurses and Health Visitors paid 3,478 visits to patients during the year.

**Consultations.** The following consultations were held by the Tuberculosis Officer during the year:—

Personal	...	...	...	...	140
Other than personal (T. 145)	...	...	...	...	887

**Special Forms of Treatment.** The Tuberculosis Officer gave the following special forms of treatment at the Dispensary during the year:—

Artificial Pneumo-thorax refills	...	...	243
Injections of Tuberculin	...	...	797

**Laryngological Clinic** Mr. R. Howarth, the Laryngologist attached to the Tuberculosis Department, holds one session every fortnight at the main Tuberculosis Dispensary. Treatment was given to 157 patients during the year.



**X Ray**

The number of X-Ray examinations made during the year was 3,344. The following table shows the number of examinations made each year since 1930 :—

1930	...	...	...	...	1942
1931	...	...	...	...	2109
1932	...	...	...	...	2543
1933	...	...	...	...	2792
1934	...	...	...	...	2737
1935	...	...	...	...	2824
1936	...	...	...	...	3005
1937	...	...	...	...	2956
1938	...	...	...	...	3344

**Bacteriological Work.**

The number of specimens of sputa, etc., which still continue to be examined by the Pathologist at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank, was 1,370. The following table shews the number of examinations made for the Tuberculosis Dispensaries since 1930 :—

1930	...	...	...	...	1424
1931	...	...	...	...	1537
1932	...	...	...	...	1150
1933	...	...	...	...	1011
1934	...	...	...	...	1314
1935	...	...	...	...	1334
1936	...	...	...	...	1444
1937	...	...	...	...	1567
1938	...	...	...	...	1370

At the end of the year the following patients were on the "live" Dispensary Register :—

		ADULTS		CHILDREN		TOTALS
		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Pulmonary	...	449	313	35	37	834
Non-Pulmonary	...	41	47	44	35	167
TOTALS	...	490	360	79	72	1001
		850		151		



**Institutional  
Treatment**

Tuberculous patients who are recommended Institutional Treatment are admitted either to Didworthy Sanatorium, South Brent; Mount Gold Pulmonary and Orthopædic Hospital, or the City Hospital, Plymouth. The Reports of the Medical Officers of these Institutions appear in this Report.

In addition, we have 2 cases undergoing training at Papworth Village Settlement.

The results of Institutional Treatment are shown in the accompanying table:—

RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF PATIENTS  
DISCHARGED FROM RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Classification on admission to the Institution.		Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.															Grand Totals.
			Under 3 mths. but exceeding 28 days.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months.			Totals.			
			M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent ...	—	1	—	1	3	—	6	3	2	1	2	3	8	9	5	22
		Not quiescent ...	9	4	1	5	5	1	5	6	—	4	9	—	23	24	2	49
		Died in Institution ...	2	4	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	10	—	14
	Class T.B. plus. Group 1.	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
		Not quiescent ...	2	—	—	2	3	—	3	3	—	2	—	—	9	6	—	15
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2
	Class T.B. plus. Group 2.	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	4	—	—	9	1	—	10
		Not quiescent ...	3	7	—	12	4	—	13	5	—	10	3	1	38	19	1	58
		Died in Institution ...	3	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	7	4	—	11
	Class T.B. plus. Group 3.	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	2
Not quiescent ...		4	—	—	5	—	—	3	2	—	2	—	—	14	2	—	16	
Died in Institution ...		2	1	—	2	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	6	4	1	11	
		TOTALS (pulmonary)	25	18	1	32	23	2	35	24	2	27	18	4	119	83	9	211
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Bones and Joints.	Quiescent ...	4	2	2	—	—	2	3	2	1	1	2	6	8	6	11	25
		Not quiescent ...	4	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	6	1	5	12
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	2	3
	Abdominal.	Quiescent ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
		Not quiescent ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Other Organs.	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Peripheral Glands.	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not quiescent ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Died in Institution ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		TOTALS (non-pulmonary)	8	5	4	—	—	3	4	3	2	4	2	10	16	10	19	45



The extent to which “ observation ” beds were used during 1938 is as shown hereunder:—

<i>Diagnosis on discharge from observation</i>	FOR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS						FOR NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS						TOTALS		
	Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks			Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.			
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.			
Tuberculous ...	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	2	7
Non-Tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	2
Doubtful ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	7	1	3	9



The extent of Residential Treatment and Observation during the year was as follows :—

	<i>In Institu- tions on Jan. 1st</i>	<i>Admitted during the year</i>	<i>Discharged during the year</i>	<i>Died in the Institu- tions</i>	<i>In Institu- tions on Dec. 31st</i>
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases ad- mitted for observation	Adult males ...	—	1	—	1
	Adult females...	1	3	—	—
	Children ...	6	9	—	7
	Total ...	7	13	—	8
		130	104	25	74
Number of patients suffering from pul- monary tuberculosis	Adult males ...	57	70	25	61
	Adult females...	11	8	2	11
	Children ...	240	182	52	146
	Total ...	19	15	1	9
		5	9	—	1
Number of patients suffering from non- pulmonary tubercu- losis	Adult males ...	19	17	2	21
	Adult females...	21	41	3	31
	Children ...	45	236	55	185
	Total ...	184	292		
GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...

**Voluntary  
Organisations**

*Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee.* This organisation works under the ægis of the Public Health Committee, with the Medical Officer of Health and the Tuberculosis Officer as Honorary Medical Officers, the City Treasurer as Honorary Treasurer, and the Head Clerk of the Tuberculosis Dispensary as Secretary.

This committee has a membership of over 30 voluntary workers by whom much good work is accomplished. During the year, assistance was given to 373 cases. This took the form of monetary grants, extra nourishment, groceries, bedding, clothing, footwear, etc.

The number of cases could be considerably increased, if the general public would give more liberally to this most deserving cause. There are still various aspects of After-Care problems which are, at present, untouched. These unexplored aspects could be dealt with if more funds were available, and this would go a long way towards a further reduction in the incidence of the disease.

*Council of Social Services.* This committee continues to work in close co-operation with the Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee, and I appreciate the valuable help which has always been given to me by its Secretary, Miss M. A. Glover.

## MOUNT GOLD TUBERCULOSIS AND ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.

### REPORT OF MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT. 1938.

The constitution of the hospital remains unchanged, namely, two sections, one for the treatment of orthopædic cases and one for the treatment of advanced and intermediate pulmonary tuberculosis, containing respectively 120 and 80 beds, making a total of 200 beds in all.

The work in each section will be described under separate headings.

**Pulmonary  
Tuberculosis  
Section**

During the year, 156 patients have been admitted and 94 have been discharged, and there have been 55 deaths. The condition of the 94 patients on discharge was as follows: quiescent, 3 (3.2%) ; very much improved, 66 (70.2%) ; no material improvement, 25 (26.6%).

The total number of in-patient days was 25,695. The average length of stay of those patients who were discharged or who died during the year was 174 days. The percentage of bed patients was 63.6%, the average bed occupation being 70.

Unfortunately, very many of the cases were admitted in the later stages of the disease. In 14 cases sufficient improvement took place to warrant their transfer to Didworthy Sanatorium. During the year, 44 patients have received treatment with one or other of the gold preparations, a total of 305 injections being given. Six patients received collapse therapy (artificial pneumothorax), and the number of refills given during the year was 70.

Of the 55 deaths which occurred, four died within one week of admission, five during the second week, and eight during the third and fourth weeks. From these figures it will be seen that 17 (31%) of the deaths occurred within the first four weeks in hospital.

During the year, 76 X-Ray examinations were carried out at Beaumont House. 363 sputum examinations were made, and 10 other specimens were sent for pathological examination.

The Dental Surgeon visits the hospital once a fortnight and gives treatment to any patients who may require it.

#### Orthopaedic Section

The general arrangements for the work of this section of the hospital remain unchanged from previous years.

The admissions continue to show an increase as given in the following table:—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
<i>Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Tuberculosis Department...	39	36	40	43	48
M. & C.W. Department ...	18	25	18	26	13
School Medical Department	28	20	19	22	23
Other Plymouth Cases ...	83	76	63	44	24
Total Plymouth Cases ...	168	157	140	135	108
<i>Non-Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Devon County Council ...	39	42	34	25	23
Cornwall County Council...	18	13	12	12	18
Exeter City ... ..	4	4	5	2	2
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid ... ..	35	36	44	34	—
Other Cases ... ..	50	59	55	59	61
Total Non-Plymouth Cases	146	154	150	132	104
Grand total of Admissions	314	311	290	267	212
Total Discharges ...	305	297	279	270	188



The following table gives a comparison of the classification of the cases admitted during the last five years:—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
1. Tuberculosis of the Bone	72	85	72	65	53
2. After Results of Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	12	11	12	17	20
3. Deformities—Congenital and Acquired ... ..	64	70	56	58	52
4. After results of Injuries ...	50	49	43	28	22
5. Chronic Non-T.B. Arthritis	50	43	47	49	25
6. Chronic and Acute Non- T.B. Osteomyelitis ...	10	5	15	3	3
7. Rickets ... ..	15	0	8	19	11
8. Disease and Injuries of the Peripheral Nerve & Spinal Cord ... ..	6	0	9	3	10
9. Other conditions ... ..	35	29	28	25	14

The total number of patient days was 39,147, and the average duration of stay of patients discharged during the year was 129 days. The percentage of bed patients was 88.5% and the average bed occupation 107.

The following table also gives a comparative study of the work carried out during the last five years.

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
Surgical operations ... ..	192	138	169	170	182
Manipulations under anæsthesia ... ..	77	74	79	78	88
X-Ray examinations ...	651	446	391	383	370
Aspirations ... ..	59	76	70	80	87
Pathological examinations ...	88	50	72	38	51



The Victor X-Ray plant continues to prove a very useful asset to hospital work. The following table gives an analysis of the X-Rays taken during 1938 :—

		<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
		<i>Patients.</i>	<i>Patients.</i>
Tuberculosis Department	...	125	35
M. & C.W. Department	...	38	7
School Medical Department	...	34	2
Other Plymouth Cases	... ..	81	72
Devon County Council	... ..	100	2
Cornwall County Council	...	57	—
Devonian Association for			
Cripples' Aid	... ..	40	1
Devon Public Assistance	...	2	—
Exeter City	... ..	1	—
Cornwall Public Assistance	...	1	—
Private	... ..	36	6
Staff	... ..	1	10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		516	135
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of films used = 1,003.

#### **Out Patient Clinic**

Mr. Capener holds this clinic twice a month (second and fourth Fridays) for consultative and "follow up" work. Treatment of Out Patients is carried on daily, and details are given below. Once again, I would draw attention to the need for increased accommodation for this purpose.

#### *Out Patient and Massage Department.*

Number of initial examinations by Surgeon	...	194
Number of subsequent examinations by Surgeon	...	705

New patients (194) who attended were sent by the following :—

Tuberculosis Department	... ..	7
M. & C.W. Department	... ..	61
Other Plymouth Cases	... ..	102
Plymouth Public Assistance	... ..	5
Private Cases (Patients residing outside the		
City area)	... ..	6
Cornwall County Council (School Medical		
Department)	... ..	13

Treatments given by the Massage Department staff:—

			No. of Patients.	No. of Treatments.
1. <i>In Patients.</i>				
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	18	659
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	13	695
School Medical Department	...	...	17	1146
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	48	2427
Devon County Council	...	...	31	867
Cornwall County Council	...	...	3	126
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	...	...	10	227
Devon Public Assistance	...	...	1	14
Private	...	...	17	224
Others	...	...	4	91
			<hr/> 162	<hr/> 6476
			<hr/>	<hr/>
2. <i>Out Patients.</i>				
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	9	88
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	47	320
School Medical Department	...	...	12	280
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	78	1556
Cornwall County Council			11	103
Private	...	...	3	36
			<hr/> 160	<hr/> 2383
			<hr/>	<hr/>

The total number of *Artificial Sunlight* treatments given by the carbon arc lamp was 28.

During the year twelve patients have received gold treatment (myocrisin) for chronic non-tuberculous arthritis. The average course has been 5 grammes.

*Infectious Disease.*

Active Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out as a routine in all children who have not been immunised before admission. The number of children immunised during the year was 25.

During January there were five cases of gastro-enteritis, but in only one instance was the bacteriological examination positive for Sonne dysentery. All cases made an uneventful recovery and were nursed in strict barrier. The disease presented no unusual

clinical signs and appeared to be a mild type. It is interesting to record that three members of the nursing staff were similarly affected, and in one of these the Sonne bacillus was isolated.

In February there was an outbreak of Whooping Cough in the Children's Ward which comprised seven cases. All the cases developed the symptoms within a period of seven days, and therefore were presumably infected at the same time. Of the remaining 42 children, 27 had had whooping cough previously, and the remaining 15 were inoculated with prophylactic vaccine. No secondary cases occurred, and all the primary cases made a satisfactory recovery.

68 appliances have been supplied during the year.

**Orthopaedic  
Hospital  
School**

The good work carried out in the school continues as in previous years. The school was re-opened on the 10th January, 1938, with 40 pupils (23 boys and 17 girls). During the year there were 53 new entries, 30 boys and 23 girls, making a total of 93 children who received instruction during the year. Of these, 55 were discharged, leaving 38 on the register on the 22nd December. Of the 93 who attended school during the year, 51 were of normal school age and 42 of nursery school age.

The school was opened 398 times, with a total attendance of 14,763, making an average attendance of 37.09 out of a possible attendance of 38.78.

The out-of-school activities of the children are catered for by a Boy Scout Troop and Wolf Cub Pack registered as the 39th Plymouth, and a Girl Guide Troop and Brownie Pack.

## DIDWORTHY SANATORIUM.

### REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

*Total Beds available* : 100 (50 for men, 30 for women, 10 for boys and 10 for girls).

**Admissions.** The total number of admissions for the year was 90. 47 men, 34 women, 8 boys and 1 girl, of whom 88 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 2 men were sent by the County of Cornwall.

#### *Classification of Admissions.*

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	
Pulmonary minus cases	20	16	6	1	47.77%
Pulmonary plus 1 cases	5	8	—	—	14.44%
Pulmonary plus 2 cases	18	9	—	—	30.00%
Pulmonary plus 3 cases	4	—	—	—	4.44%
Non-Pulmonary cases...	—	1	—	—	1.11%
Observation cases ...	—	—	2	—	2.22%



**Discharges.** The total number of discharges for the year was 96. 54 men, 35 women, 6 boys and 1 girl, of whom 94 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 1 man and 1 boy were sent by the County of Cornwall.

*Classification of discharges.*

				Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent ... ..	7	6	4	1	
Minus		Very much improved	3	3	—	—	
cases		Not improved ... ..	1	1	—	—	
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent ... ..	—	1	—	—	
Plus 1		Very much improved	6	3	—	—	
cases		Not improved ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent ... ..	4	1	—	—	
Plus 2		Very much improved	28	14	—	—	
cases		Not improved ... ..	1	—	—	—	
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent ... ..	—	—	—	—	
Plus 3		Very much improved	2	2	—	—	
cases		Not improved ... ..	1	2	—	—	
Non-	{	Quiescent ... ..	—	2	2	—	
Pulmonary		Very much improved	1	—	—	—	
		Not improved	—	—	—	—	
Observation		... ..	—	—	—	—	
Deaths		... ..	—	—	—	—	

Summarising this, we get the following:—  
 25.00% cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Pulmonary).  
 63.54% cases discharged “ Very much improved ” (Pulmonary).  
 6.25% cases discharged “ Not improved ” (Pulmonary).  
 4.17% cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Non-Pulmonary).  
 1.04% cases discharged “ Very much improved ” (Non-Pulmonary).

*The total number of Patients who received treatment during the year was 183.*

**Bed Occupation.** The total number of patient days for the year was 32,731.

An average struck over the whole year shows the average bed occupation to have been 89.67. The average length of stay of cases discharged during the year was 302.66 days.

The total number of bed patient days was 7,587, which represents 23.18% patients in bed daily of the total number of cases treated.



**Pathological Tests.**

The total number of sputum examinations during the year was 428.

The drinking water used in the Institution from all sources of supply is bacteriologically analysed every three months and has always been found to be of very good standard.

The milk produced at the Institution and the milk supplied by the Contractors has been periodically bacteriologically analysed, and it has always been found to be very satisfactory.

**Specialised Treatments.**

(a) *Artificial Pneumothorax Therapy.*

Total number of patients treated during the	
year	17
Total number of attempted inductions	11
Number of successful inductions	9
Number of unsuccessful inductions	2

This has necessitated a total of 267 refills.

Three Artificial Pneumothorax cases developed effusion and had to be treated by aspiration and air replacement.

(b) *Aurotherapy.* During the year we treated 48 patients by injections of gold salts (Aurotherapy), and the results on the whole were definitely encouraging.

None of these cases developed any serious complications during treatment by this method.

The total number of intra-muscular injections of gold salts during the year was 573.

(c) *Tuberculin (P.T.O. Bovine).* We have treated a number of Non - Pulmonary forms of Tuberculosis with the above preparation, and the results have been very satisfactory.

The total number of cases treated by the above method was 4. This has necessitated a total number of 108 injections.

(d) *Colloidal Calcium Therapy.* During the year many cases were treated by injections of the above preparation, with beneficial results.

**Open Air  
School.**

The children attending School at Didworthy during the past year have taken a keen interest in their school work, especially the handwork, consisting chiefly of basket making and raffia work.

Gardening has been introduced for senior pupils, and great pride is taken in this work by boys and girls.

Results from school examinations have been very satisfactory, the papers showing careful and neat work, and at the Michaelmas Term Examination very satisfactory results were obtained.

Great use has been made of the lessons given in Nature study, History, English and Geography by the B.B.C. School talks. For each of these subjects we have obtained the Educational Pamphlets and a set of each was given to each child.

Living in a rural area as we are, we have been able to give the children great practical facilities in conjunction with the Nature talks.

The total number of children who received instruction at the school during the year was 25.

The ages of pupils varied from 4 years to 14 years.

The percentage of attendances made was 82%.

The average attendance per class was 15.

**Occupational  
Therapy**

The psychological effect of Occupational therapy cannot be too greatly stressed.

Patients, in doing useful work, are able to forget their worries and troubles and take their treatment in a hopeful and co-operative manner.

- (a) *Handicrafts Department.* This Department continues its good work, both utilitarian and therapeutic. It contributes largely to the mental health of our patients and thereby assists in building up a renewed physical well-being.

While we encourage group work and communal activities, individual projects bulk large in our scheme of tuition.

If craftwork is to have cultural value, an appreciation of craftsmanship must be developed. To this end we have endeavoured to get together a collection of objects which will be an inspiration to those who feel the creative urge but lack experience.

The Department links up with the social activities of the Institution, and everything possible is done to encourage absorbing hobbies among the patients. As the scope of this work expands, the patients themselves do all in their power to adapt and improve the unsatisfactory premises now in use. Any improvement that can be made to the accommodation of this Department would be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

*The Children.* The Hadow report quotes as follows:—

“ The child’s predilections being towards things practical, his intellectual activities are strongly stimulated when they are directed towards practical ends.”

Our handicraft course for children has always been modelled with this in view. The recently published memorandum on Technical Subjects and the Spens Report encourage us in our belief that the children at Didworthy are fortunate in their practical training. It would be very difficult to provide children in elementary schools with the “ real jobs ” these children undertake. The result is that they are most enthusiastic about their workshops and make very satisfactory progress.

Educationally, handicraft is as much a method as a subject. Close co-operation is maintained with school work, to the mutual profit of both sections.

*Men.*

Number of men receiving instruction	...	...	41
Total number of working hours	...	...	4015

*Children.*

Number of children receiving instruction—						
Boys	...	...	...	...	...	16
Girls	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total number of working hours	...	...	...	...	...	3836



- (b) *Printing Department.* Our Magazine, "The Didworthy Review," has had another successful year. This periodical is produced at Didworthy by the patients. The articles are written by past and present patients and others interested in the Institution. It provides congenial work for the patients and serves as a link between old and new patients.
- (c) *Gardening.* During the year many patients have been usefully employed in the gardens of the Sanatorium under the direction of our trained gardener. The patients, apart from the benefit to their health in this form of occupational therapy, have also gained useful and considerable knowledge of horticultural work.

**Farm and Gardens.**

I am very pleased to say that the general work on the Farm and in the Gardens continues to give great satisfaction. Our cows provide us with approximately half our requirements of milk ; and most of the vegetables, excluding potatoes, were provided by our own farm. We all realise the benefit of fresh vegetables and salads.

**Special Works undertaken during 1938.**

1. This year saw the erection of the "Bolitho Hall" and Staff Recreation Room, both of which have been a great boon to the Institution. The Bolitho Hall is used not only for religious services, but also for all forms of communal entertainment for the patients.
2. This year the Committee purchased from Mr. Northmore the field in which is situated the main springs from which our water supply is derived. This will enable us to keep a more rigid control against contamination of our water supply than has before been possible.
3. The Committee have under consideration the construction of a new Nurses' Home. This is an urgent necessity, as the present accommodation is unsuitable both in quality and quantity and, in my opinion, has been a great factor in our present difficulty in getting and retaining Nursing Staff.



## BEAUMONT HOUSE DENTAL CLINIC.

### REPORT OF THE DENTAL OFFICER.

There are no new innovations to report regarding the work carried out during the year. The purpose of treatment has been to make all patients attending the clinic dentally fit, as opposed to emergency or casual treatment merely for the relief of pain or the elimination of gross oral sepsis. The few persons who receive emergency treatment only are "Casuals" from Ford or Clarence House.

A statistical table is attached showing details of the work accomplished. The attendances are 81 greater than last year, and there has been a general increase in the number of operations performed.

It was not possible to commence the routine inspection and treatment of Holy Cross School until October, and this will not be completed until March of this year. This work is undertaken for the Education Department, to help in a small way the School Dental Officers to cope with the arrears of treatment with which they are unable to deal with the present staff. Again the number of acceptances have been above the average, due in no small measure to the close proximity of school to clinic. Of the 418 Maternity and Child Welfare patients who were recommended for treatment, only 10 failed to have some treatment carried out. This is really remarkable when one considers the distance some of the mothers must travel, and the difficulty of arranging for the care of other children during their absence.

The delay in providing dentures has been overcome by the employment of a boy in the workroom, and now patients can be fitted with dentures as soon as their mouths are ready, instead of waiting some weeks as was the case last year.

Thirteen Orthodontic cases (straightening teeth), requiring special appliances, have been treated for the School Dental Officers, who have no facilities for this kind of treatment. The time spent on each case is considerably greater than that usually spent on dental treatment for a school child, but the psychological effect of crooked and unsightly teeth upon a child is in some cases as important as is the ill effect of decayed teeth, and may be a great handicap in obtaining employment in later years.

Again, the children of the Margaret McMillan Nursery School have been inspected twice during the year, and necessary treatment carried out. The figures are included under those of Maternity and Child Welfare: 31 children were inspected once, 25 inspected twice, requiring 39 fillings, and 8 temporary extractions.

Through the generosity of Messrs. Claudius Ash & Co., we have had on loan for some months a modern Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen machine, which had made the extraction of teeth under General Anæsthesia an almost pleasant ordeal for the patient, and considerably eased the strain on the anæsthetist and operator. It has made us realise how unsatisfactory was our equipment in this respect,

Vinesthine, a comparatively new inhalation anæsthetic, has been used for short operations with satisfactory results.

The successful administration of and the treatment carried out at the clinic, for such a variety of patients embracing so many different departments, calls for close co-operation from Medical and other Officers, which has always been most helpful and cordial.

BEAUMONT HOUSE DENTAL CLINIC, 1938.

Patients	New Patients	Atten- dances	Extractions		Anaesthetics			Fillings	Scalings	Dentures	Repairs	Other Operations
			Perm.	Temp.	Local	Simple	General					
Tuberculosis ...	116	733	270	16	93	4	13	246	93	60	18	158
Maternity & Child Welfare	418	1266	1197	870	76	169	133	167	34	102	15	229
City Hospital ...	108	114	573	39	35	13	36	—	10	—	—	—
Outdoor Medical ...	169	711	1075	14	120	4	87	18	38	115	23	216
Police ...	13	105	57	—	13	—	4	49	12	18	5	45
Holy Cross School ...	63	54	13	20	5	9	—	52	—	13	—	16
TOTALS ...	887	2983	3185	959	342	199	273	532	187	308	61	664

VISITS TO INSTITUTIONS.

Didworthy ...	29	Swilly ...	3
Mount Gold ...	28	Nrsy. School	2
City Hospital...	48		

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The City General Hospital

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# The City General Hospital

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

The following table summarises certain statistics of a general nature on the work of the City Hospital :—

(1)	Total number of admissions	...	...	...	4783
(2)	Number of discharges	...	...	...	4165
(3)	Number of deaths	...	...	...	644
(4)	Patients treated to a conclusion	...	...		4809
(5)	Duration of stay of patients treated to a conclusion :				
	(a) Under four weeks	...	...	...	3619
	(b) Over four weeks and under thirteen weeks	...	...	...	918
	(c) Thirteen weeks or more	...	...		272
(6)	In-patient days	...	...	...	194,022
(7)	Average duration of stay	...	...		40.3 days
(8)	Number of available beds	...	...	...	570
(9)	Number of beds occupied :				
	(a) Average	...	...	...	513
	(b) Highest—on 29/3/38	...	...	...	562
	(c) Lowest—on 25/12/38	...	...	...	449
(10)	Number of women confined in Hospital			...	503
(11)	Number of live births	...	...	...	482
(12)	Number of stillbirths	...	...	...	33
(13)	Deaths of newly born (under 4 weeks)	...	...		18
(14)	Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	2
	(Women confined in Hospital)				
(15)	Number of surgical operations	...	...	...	1689
(16)	Number of X-ray investigations	...	...	...	2068
(17)	Number of pathological investigations	...	...		5955
(18)	Number of patients treated in Dental Dept.	...			108

**Accommodation.** During 1938 the work of the hospital has continued at full pressure, and there has been no relief from the severe strain which is put upon the available accommodation, especially during the winter months.

The number of admissions (4,783) shows an increase over last year, and the number of operations (1,689) is the highest yet recorded.

The daily bed occupation at 513 represents a 90% daily average. This is a general figure for the whole hospital and includes wards reserved for special purposes and in consequence not available for other uses. Such special wards may not be full when the rest of the hospital is being used to full capacity. It is therefore apparent that, to secure the general average occupation of 90%, at times the accommodation of the general wards will need to be utilized at a level over 100% of normal capacity. This state of affairs not infrequently arises during the winter.

**Structural.** The structural alterations in prospect promise eventually a full complement of beds correctly spaced and distributed. The first portion of the reconstruction scheme commences during the year 1939, and already certain temporary structural adaptations have been necessary to secure alternative Ante-Natal Clinic and Post-Mortem and Mortuary accommodation.

**Maternity Department.** This department continues to be worked to its full capacity. There has been only a small increase in the number of admissions, as the normal bookings have had of necessity to be limited strictly since 1935. The number of emergency admissions has progressively increased from year to year. In 1935, emergencies formed 10% of the total admissions to the department. Rising to 15% in 1936, and 20% in 1937, the proportion reached 26% in 1938.

The hospital has been recognised as a training institution for Part 1 of the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board. During 1939 it will become also a centre for Post-Certificate training for midwives, who will undergo a refresher course at the hospital as resident post-graduate pupils. The number of institutions giving such post-certificate training throughout the country is limited, and the choice of the City Hospital for this purpose emphasises the importance of this Department.

It is satisfying to record that the Post-Natal Clinic has been better attended than during 1937. There is still, however, a failure on the part of many recently confined mothers to accept this opportunity of having detected and rectified at an early stage those post-natal abnormalities which may later lead to chronic ill-health.

**Visiting.** A revised system of visiting has been introduced during the year. Visiting is now allowed on three evenings per week at 7-30 for a period of half an hour. The Sunday afternoon visiting period of two hours for two relatives has been retained.

This system of shorter but more frequent visits has been a great success. The evening visiting hour is, in general, more convenient to the patients' relatives and friends and fits in well with the work of the wards. The shorter period is also considerably less exhausting to the sick, and the fact that patients can now receive visitors on four occasions weekly has proved of great comfort both to them and their relatives.

**Nurses' Training.** The Nurses' Training School had a very good record during the year, when the following results were obtained:—

(A) STATE REGISTRATION EXAMINATION.

			<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>
Preliminary	...	...	25	22
Final	...	...	19	17

(B) CERTIFICATE OF CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>
11	11

STATISTICAL TABLES FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

Patients remaining in hospital—1st Jan., 1938	...	533
Patients admitted	...	4301
Births	...	482
		<hr/>
		5316
Patients discharged	...	4165
Patients died	...	644
		<hr/>
Patients treated to a conclusion	...	4809
Patients remaining in hospital—31st Dec., 1938	...	507



ADMISSIONS—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Births	...	...	...	247	235	482
Under 1 year	...	...	...	107	99	206
1-3	...	...	...	98	82	180
3-5	...	...	...	109	78	187
5-11	...	...	...	255	210	465
11-16	...	...	...	63	95	158
Adults	...	...	...	1118	1987	3105
TOTALS ...				1997	2786	4783

Of the 3,798 patients admitted for treatment during the year (excluding maternity cases and births), 31.5% were under the age of 16 years (1,196), and 27.3% were under the age of 11 years (1,038).

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

Total number of deaths, 644.

<i>Ages.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i> —
Under 1 year	...	...	...	26	31	57
1- 5	...	...	...	12	5	17
5-10	...	...	...	4	4	8
10-15	...	...	...	1	2	3
15-25	...	...	...	8	8	16
25-35	...	...	...	11	13	24
35-45	...	...	...	9	18	27
45-55	...	...	...	28	23	51
55-65	...	...	...	60	35	95
65-75	...	...	...	120	73	193
Over 75 years	...	...	...	70	83	153

Deaths within 24 hours of admission ... 75—11.6%

Causes :

Neonatal	...	...	...	...	...	6
Terminal :						
Acute Disease			...	...	...	33
Chronic Disease			...	...	...	36
Violence	...	...	...	...	...	—

COMMENTS :—

There were 644 deaths during the year. This figure includes, of course, patients who were moribund on admission and died within 24 hours, senile patients and patients suffering from incurable carcinoma.



CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS TREATED TO A  
CONCLUSION IN THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

<i>Disease Groups.</i>	<i>Children (under 16 Years of Age).</i>		<i>Adults.</i>	
	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
Acute infectious disease ...	23	—	5	—
Influenza ...	—	—	22	1
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary ...	—	—	31	6
Non-pulmonary ...	7	3	7	6
Malignant disease ...	—	—	67	109
Rheumatism—				
(1) Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever) together with sub - acute rheumatism and chorea ...	8	—	20	2
(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called “rheumatism” (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica) ...	—	—	16	—
(3) Chronic arthritis ...	—	—	36	1
Venereal disease ...	4	—	20	—
Puerperal Pyrexia—				
(a) Women confined in the hospital ...	—	—	2	—
(b) Other cases ...	—	—	19	2
Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth ...	—	27	141	3
Mental diseases—				
(a) Senile Dementia ...	—	—	1	1
(b) Other ...	—	—	13	—
Senile decay ...	—	—	26	3
Accidental injury and violence ...	19	—	60	7
In respect of cases not included above:—				
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	435	—	—	—
Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs ...	59	3	192	61
Disease of the Respiratory System ...	137	41	174	40
Disease of the Circulatory System ...	9	5	163	239
Disease of the Digestive System ...	113	4	422	32
Disease of the Genito-urinary System ...	19	—	353	42
Disease of the Skin ...	227	1	210	—
Other diseases ...	4	3	40	2
Mothers and infants discharged from the Maternity Wards and not included in above figures—				
Mothers ...	—	—	503	—
Infants ...	482	—	—	—
Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	76	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1622	87	2543	557





## ANALYSIS OF WORK OF DEPARTMENTS.

**General.** The inset table gives details of the work of all the departments of the hospital in the form of a classification of all patients treated to a conclusion.

### **Surgery and Anaesthetics.** OPERATIONS IN MAIN THEATRE:

Abdominal	...	...	...	...	368
Genito-Urinary	...	...	...	...	217
Gynæcological	...	...	...	...	151
Ear, Nose and Throat	...	...	...	...	505
Maternity (including Cæsarean Sections)					48
Others	...	...	...	...	400

<b>Maternity.</b>	Number of available beds	...	...	22
	Number of patients admitted	...	...	503
	Number of cases delivered by :			
	(a) Midwives	...	...	393
	(b) Doctors	...	...	110

### (A) ANTE-NATAL DEPARTMENT.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	100
Number of attendances	...	...	...	3072
Average number of attendances per session				30.72
Number of expectant mothers seen	...			511
Average number of attendances made by each	...	...	...	6.01
Referred for radiological examination	...			72
Referred to Consultant Obstetrical Clinic				34
Referred to V.D. Clinic	...	...	...	9

#### *Consulting Obstetrical Clinic :*

New Cases	...	...	...	66
Total attendances	...	...		108

#### *Post-Natal Clinic :*

New Cases	...	...	...	280
Total attendances	...	...		324

(B) IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

(1) *Mothers :*

503 mothers gave birth to 515 children.  
(There were 12 cases of twin birth).

*How Admitted :*

Through Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	371
Emergency	...	...	132

*Parous State :*

Primipara	...	...	271
Multipara	...	...	232

*Presentations :*

Vertex	...	...	453
Face	...	...	—
Breech—Uncomplicated	...	...	7
Complicated	...	...	5

(2) *Obstetrical Operations :*

Instrumental deliveries	...	...	22
Surgical induction	...	...	22
Cæsarean Section	...	...	38
Internal Version	...	...	4
Scalp Traction	...	...	2

(3) <i>Maternal Deaths</i>	...	...	2
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<i>Whether admitted from A.N. Clinic</i>	<i>Mode of delivery</i>	<i>Maternal Complications</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>
No.	Induction	Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	1
No.	Induction	Eclampsia	1

(4) *Pyrexial Cases.*

Two cases delivered in this hospital were pyrexial (Ministry of Health standard). There were no deaths in this group.

(5) *Infants*

Births	...	...	...	...	...	515
Premature	...	...	...	...	...	58
Mature	...	...	...	...	...	457
Born and survived	...	...	...	...	...	464
Born and died (within 4 weeks)	...	...	...	...	...	18
(within 10 days)	...	...	...	...	...	17
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	33

Thus of 515 infants born, 18 died in the neonatal period of four weeks, and 33 were stillborn=9.9% ; of 464 infants born alive, 18 died=3.9%.

CAUSE OF DEATHS (within 10 days) :—

*Foetal:*

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	9
Pulmonary Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	2
Malformed Oesophagus	...	...	...	...	1
Monster birth	...	...	...	...	1

*Maternal:*

Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	1
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	2
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	1

**Radiological  
Department.**

The following figures of special examinations afford an index of the work of this department.

*Special Examinations:*

Total radiographic examinations	...	...	...	...	2068
Chest radiographs	...	...	...	...	758
Lipiodol examinations	...	...	...	...	14
Opaque meal examinations	...	...	...	...	142
Opaque enemata	...	...	...	...	58
Cholecystograms	...	...	...	...	65
Pyelography—					
Retrograde	...	...	...	...	25
Intravenous	...	...	...	...	68

**Dental  
Department.**

Sessions held	...	...	...	...	53
Patients treated	...	...	...	...	108
Scalings	...	...	...	...	10
Extractions	...	...	...	...	91
Others	...	...	...	...	7



# ANNUAL PATIENT STATISTICS.

	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/36	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/37	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/38
Admissions ... ..	4458	4173	4301
Births ... ..	440	453	482
TOTALS ...	4898	4626	4783
Discharges ... ..	4188	3909	4165
Deaths ... ..	709	714	644
TOTALS ...	4897	4623	4809
Daily average Beds occupied ... ..	535	528	513
Highest Number ...	576	583	562
Lowest Number ...	488	509	449
Average stay ... ..	40 days	42.99 days	40.3 days

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Cancer

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## Cancer

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR RADIUM TREATMENT AND DEEP X-RAY THERAPY.

The Plymouth Radium Centre is at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank Road, the work of which was described in my Annual Report for the year 1937.

Mention was made in last year's Report of negotiations with the Prince of Wales's Hospital and the National Radium Commission with a view to permitting patients in the City Hospital to receive radium treatments without having to be transferred to the Prince of Wales's Hospital for the purpose.

Although no definite decision has yet been communicated to the Health Department, it is understood that these suggestions will be approved by the Prince of Wales's Hospital Board and the National Radium Commission.



CANCER.

DEATHS FROM CANCER, SHOWING THE PARTS OF THE BODY AFFECTED,  
DURING THE YEARS 1930 TO 1938.

<i>Part of the Body Affected.</i>	1930			1931			1932			1933			1934			1935			1936			1937			1938		
	1930			1931			1932			1933			1934			1935			1936			1937			1938		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Buccal Cavity ...	17	1	18	13	-	13	14	3	17	15	1	16	23	1	24	22	4	26	13	2	15	13	3	16	17	4	21
Stomach, Liver, etc. ....	36	46	82	30	42	72	47	24	71	44	45	89	31	50	81	63	46	109	40	38	78	51	49	100	43	33	76
Intestines, etc. ...	27	30	57	30	33	63	31	37	68	22	30	52	37	53	90	31	34	65	43	58	101	42	37	79	39	31	70
Breast ...	-	39	39	-	25	25	-	23	23	-	37	37	-	26	26	-	34	34	31	-	31	1	36	37	-	41	41
Female Genital Organs ...	-	34	34	-	46	46	-	37	37	-	34	34	-	44	44	-	31	31	32	-	32	-	34	34	-	46	46
Skin ...	4	-	4	-	-	-	1	2	3	6	1	7	-	-	-	6	2	8	11	5	16	10	1	11	1	2	3
Other or Unspecified Organs ...	53	30	83	66	24	90	62	29	91	44	24	68	38	22	60	26	22	48	36	15	51	50	16	66	60	10	70
TOTALS ...	137	180	317	139	170	309	155	155	310	131	172	303	129	196	325	148	173	321	143	181	324	167	176	343	160	167	327

# HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF CANCER.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO CITY HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1938=121.

SITES	Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital providing radiation as well as operative treatment		Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment providing operative but not radiation treatment				Patients admitted without previous advice or treatment at another hospital		
	(a) Numbers treated at that hospital	(b) Numbers not treated at that hospital	Treated at that hospital (b)		Not treated at that hospital (a)		(a) Numbers retained in Council's hospital	(b)	
			Numbers retained in Council's hospital	Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to a hospital providing radiation treatment	Numbers retained in Council's hospital	Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to a hospital providing radiation treatment			
Uterus ...	4	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	5
Tongue and Mouth ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Breast ...	4	—	2	—	—	—	10	—	6
Lip ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Larynx ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Bladder ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Rectum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Other sites ...	4	—	2	—	—	—	52	—	4
Total ...	19	—	6	—	—	—	79	—	17



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## Welfare of the Blind

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## Welfare of the Blind

The City Council is responsible for the administration of the Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938, the latter being an Act to lower from 50 years to 40 years the ages which blind persons must have attained to be entitled to Old Age Pensions, under the Old Age Pensions Act, 1936; and to amend the law with respect to the provisions of assistance to such persons by local authorities.

On the 31st March, 1939, there were 545 persons on the Plymouth City Register of Blind Persons, excluding persons who are resident in the City but registered elsewhere. Over 86 per cent. of those registered are over the age of forty years.

### Age of persons Registered as Blind :—

0 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	0
5 to 16 „	...	...	...	...	18
16 to 21 „	...	...	...	...	6
21 to 40 „	...	...	...	...	50
40 to 50 „	...	...	...	...	55
50 to 65 „	...	...	...	...	138
65 to 70 „	...	...	...	...	76
70 to 80 „	...	...	...	...	133
80 to 90 „	....	....	....	....	61
90 and over	....	....	....	....	8

### Age of Onset of Blindness :—

0 to 1 years	...	...	...	...	70
1 to 5 „	...	...	...	...	15
5 to 10 „	...	...	...	...	19
10 to 20 „	...	...	...	...	30
20 to 30 „	...	...	...	...	40
30 to 40 „	...	...	...	...	38
40 to 50 „	...	...	...	...	61
50 to 60 „	...	...	...	...	105
60 to 70 „	...	...	...	...	90
70 to 80 „	...	...	...	...	57
80 to 90 „	...	...	...	...	19
90 and over	...	...	...	...	1

The South Devon and Cornwall Institution—a voluntary body—provides the main services in connection with the various activities arising out of the Blind Persons Act.

#### OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED BLIND PERSONS.

Baskets Department	...	...	...	16
Mats Department	...	...	...	8
Knitting and Chair Caning Department				7
Boots Department	...	...	...	3
Piano Department	...	...	...	1
Porters	...	...	...	3

All cases for relief under the Blind Persons Act, 1920, must be in possession of an ophthalmic surgeon's certificate of blindness under the Act.

Children under school age suffering from blindness are admitted to various sunshine homes, and on attaining school age attend the Blind School at Exeter: After attaining sixteen years of age they are transferred to the South Devon and Cornwall Institution, Plymouth.

**Registered Workers.** Not only Plymouth people who have reached such a stage of proficiency in their work that they can produce articles at the Home workshops, but also blind persons living elsewhere are dealt with.

There are 22 of these workers in South Devon and Cornwall, and four in Plymouth City. Materials, etc., are provided at cost price. The persons can secure their own orders for work and also receive commissions from the Institution, and the income they make from their own endeavours is augmented by an allowance under the Blind Persons' Scheme.

**Part-time Occupations.** These are Plymouth people visited by the Home teachers, and taught Braille and small things, such as rug-making, etc., to occupy their minds. No payment is made or received for this work.

The Home teachers also take these people on the Hoe, or elsewhere, for walks, and generally give them added interests in their lives.

GRANT BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY (BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920).

(*Financial Year, 1/3/37—31/3/38.*)

	£	s.	d.
Services Hired—Ophthalmic Surgeons' Fees ...	56	14	0
South Devon and Cornwall Institution for the Blind—			
Necessitous Blind Relief ... ..	8466	13	0
Grant for Proportion of Administrative Expenses—			
Home Teachers and Workers ... ..	1520	0	0
Augmentation of Journeymen's Wages ... ..	1623	15	3
Devonport and Western Counties Association for			
Welfare of the Blind—Grant ... ..	348	0	0
Grant to other Institutions ... ..	146	0	0
Home for Blind, Torr—Maintenance ... ..	32	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£12,193	12	3
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Port Health Department

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REPORT OF THE  
SENIOR ASSISTANT PORT MEDICAL OFFICER.

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I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT  
DURING THE YEAR 1938.

**Shipping.** In all, 2,943 vessels (apart from those engaged in the fishing trade) arrived from foreign and coast-wise, the tonnage amounting to 5,570,299.

Four hundred and sixty-seven vessels were visited by the Medical Officers, and 1,869 by the Inspector. 162 defects were found on 53 vessels, and in most cases the defects were remedied while in Port. In cases where it was not possible for renovation and repairs to be carried out during the vessels' stay at Plymouth, a letter was sent to the Inspector at the next port of call in England notifying him of the details of our notice. Further details will be found in Table A.

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

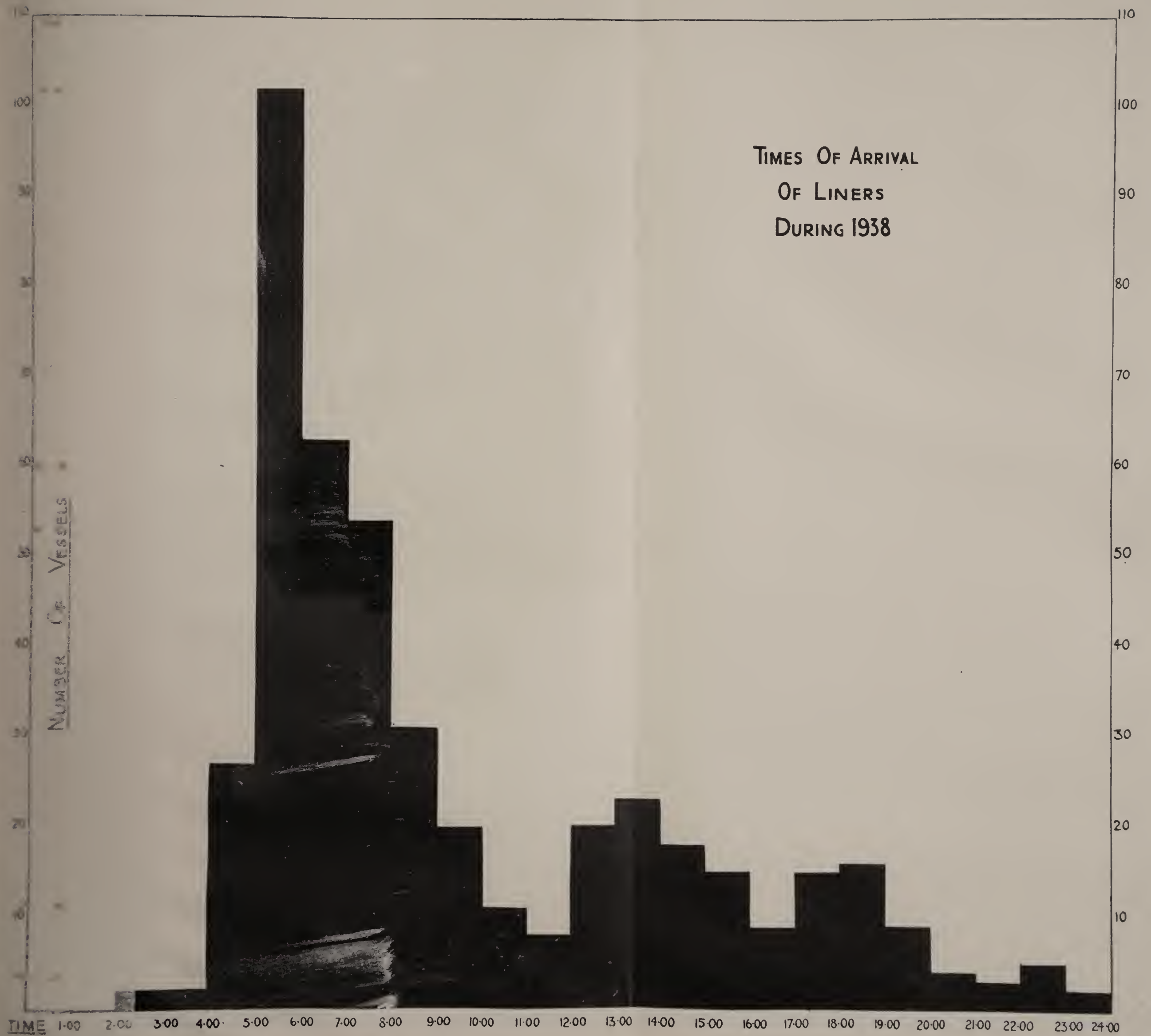
**Passenger Traffic.** The number of persons passing through the Port was over 33,269, including 13,544 aliens, the latter figure being made up in the main part by American tourists. The diagram on page 153A shows the times of arrival of the various liners which called at Plymouth during the year. It will be seen that 61% of the vessels which were visited by the Port Medical Officer called between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m.

**Cargo Traffic.** *Coastwise.* Coastwise cargo traffic consists largely of transhipped general cargoes from London, Liverpool and Glasgow, coal from the North-East ports, and coal and general goods from the Bristol Channel ports.

*Foreign.* The foreign trade remained much the same as in previous years. Vessels arriving from infected ports were given immediate attention by officers of this Department. Table B (b) gives a list of the chief steamship companies and ports with which Plymouth has traded during the year 1938, and the nature of any cargo traded.







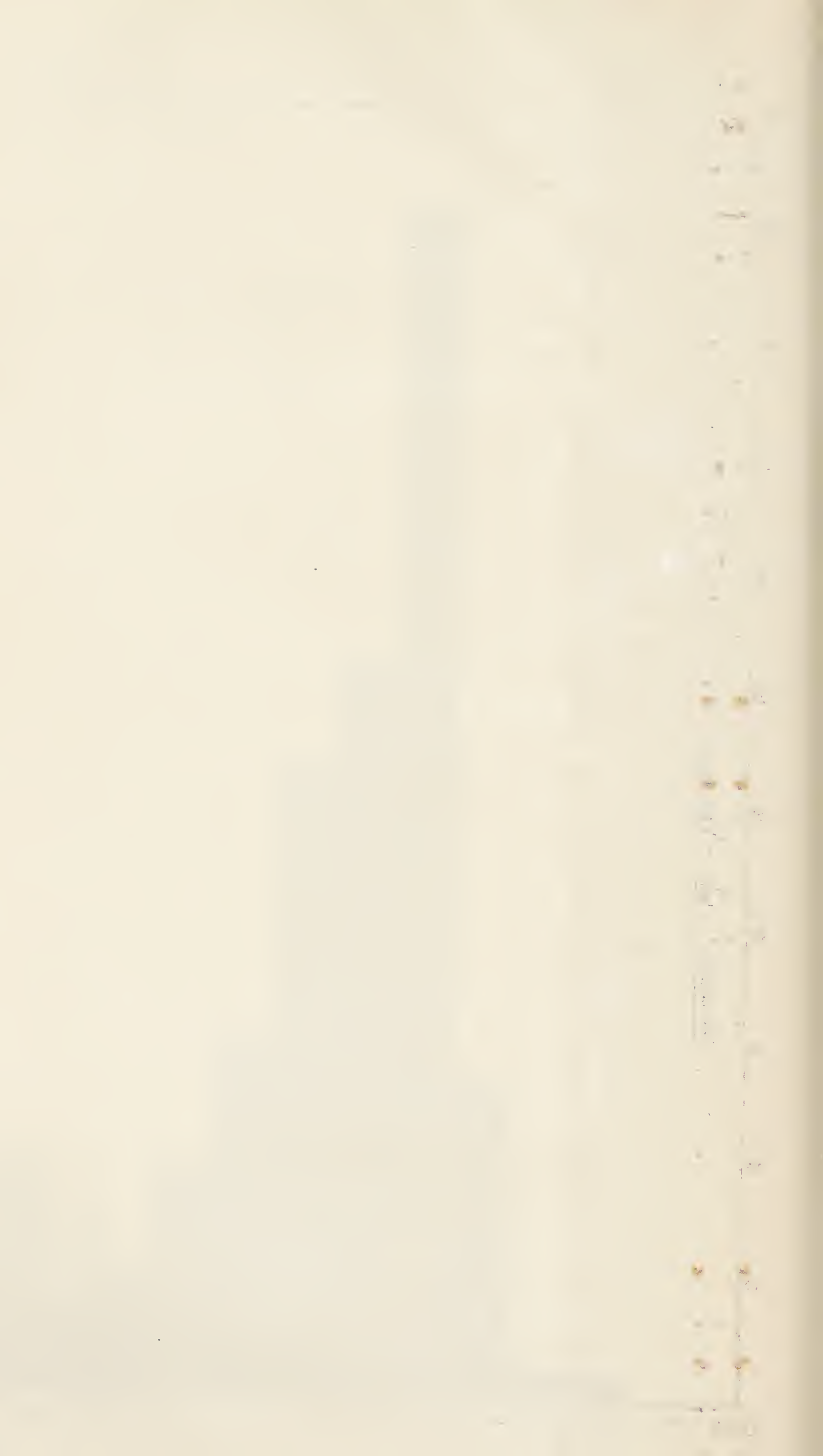


TABLE A.

**AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT  
DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

Type of Vessel	Number.	Tonnage.	Number In- spected by the		Num- ber re- ported to be defec- tive.	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels re- ported as having, or having had during the voyage inf. dis. on board
			M.O.	San. Insp.			
FOREIGN—							
Steamer ..	830	4,323,484	411	410	30	30	72
Motor ...	303	728,039	46	143	—	—	25
Sailing ...	8	2142	—	1	—	—	—
Fishing ...	232	6408	1	1	—	—	1
Total Foreign	1,373	5,060,073	458	555	30	30	98
COASTWISE—							
Steamer ...	763	318,481	4	616	18	18	—
Motor ..	1037	198,038	—	693	5	5	—
Sailing ...	2	115	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	—	—	5	5	—	—	—
Total Coastwise	1,802	516,634	9	1,314	23	23	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise	3,175	5,576,707	467	1,869	53	53	98



**TABLE B. (a)**  
**CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.**  
**PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

<i>No. of Passengers</i>	<i>1st Class</i>	<i>Cabin</i>	<i>2nd Class</i>	<i>Tourist</i>	<i>3rd Class</i>	<i>Trans- migrants</i>	<i>Coastwise Passengers</i>	<i>Not classified</i>	<i>Total</i>
INWARDS	5,327	8,720	1,876	6,249	4,131	371	15	4,862	31,551
OUTWARDS	88	415	18	210	146	—	799	42	1,718

**TABLE B (b).**

**CHIEF STEAMSHIP COMPANIES AND PORTS WITH WHICH PLYMOUTH  
HAS TRADED DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

**COASTWISE IMPORTS.**

Aberdeen, Dundee and Kirkcaldy	Confectionery, fish, jams, lard, oatmeal, potatoes, grain, lino, jute, goods, granite	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Avonmouth	Flour, wheat	Various	Irregular
London, Rochester	Cement	Various	Irregular
Birkenhead, Swansea	Flour and Poultry food	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Weekly
Belfast	Potatoes, rope, eggs, linen, etc.	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Blyth, Goole, Keadby, Immingham, Newcastle, Sunderland, Cardiff, Barry, Methil, Seaham	Coal	Various	Weekly
Bristol	Canned goods, flour, fruit, milk (condensed), sugar, soap, vegetables, cattle food, soda, glucose, oils, paints, plywood, mats, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Swansea	Galv. iron, lubricatg. oil	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Glasgow	Biscuits, coffee, flour, sugar, syrup; iron and steel goods; general	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Hull and Leith	Confectionery, canned goods, lard, potatoes, rice, salt fish, cattle food, wool, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Liverpool and London	Bottled and canned goods, cheese, dried, fresh and preserved fruit, flour, grain, lard, oats, salt beef and pork, sugar, wines, lino, skins, wool, hemp, lead and general	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Middlesbrough	Basic slag, iron work; fertilizer, cement, pipes	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Irregular
Pentewan	Sand	Various	Irregular
Southampton	Canned goods, lard, oil, petrol, timber, cable	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Weekly & irregular
Dundrum, Montrose Portaferry	Potatoes	Various	Irregular

## FOREIGN IMPORTS.

### CANADA :

Vancouver	Timber and wheat	Various	Isolated
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### CHANNEL ISLANDS :

Guernsey, Jersey	Fats of sorts, fruit, vegetables, Sulphate of Ammonia, etc.	British, Channel Islands S.S. Co., Ltd.	Weekly
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### EIRE :

Waterford	Bacon, porter, horses	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Dublin	Biscuits, stout, whisky, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly

### ALGERIA :

Bona	Ore and phosphates	Various	Irregular
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### SOUTH AMERICA :

Concepcion La Plata, Rosario, San Nicolas,	Grain	Various	Irregular
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Valparaiso, etc.	Nitrates	Various	Irregular
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### BELGIUM :

Antwerp	Bricks, chocolate, flour, grain, mineral waters, sulphur, bulbs, glass, manure, nails, ore, paper, wire, zinc, tapestry, cement, etc.	Bristol Steam Navigation Co. and various	Fortnightly and Irregular
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Nieuport, Ghent	Cement	Various	Irregular
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### DENMARK, DANZIG, FINLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN :

—	Matches, paper, timber, wood goods, grain, etc.	Various	Irregular
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### FRANCE :

Brest	Strawberries	Various	Seasonal
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St. Malo	Slates	Various	Weekly
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### GERMANY :

Hamburg, Bremen	Milk (condensed), sugar, baskets, brushes, carbide, enamelware, hemp, granite, matches, mats, paper, toys, glass, red lead, clay, etc.	General Steam and Bugsier Lines	Fortnightly
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**HOLLAND :**Amsterdam and  
RotterdamBarley, bran, benzene,  
cake, butter, cheese,  
chocolates, cocoa, coffee,  
condensed milk, fruit,  
ground rice, margarine,  
middlings, tinned meat,  
sugar preserves, veget-  
ables, etc.; artificial  
flowers, bulbs, carpets,  
cotton goods, electric  
batteries, enamelware,  
hardware, machinery,  
matches, paper, rope,  
strawboards, toys, wood-  
ware, etc.Holland S.S. Co.  
Bristol S.N. Co.  
and others

Fortnightly

**LITHUANIA :**

Memel

Timber

Various

Irregular

**PERSIAN GULF :**

Basra

Grain

Various

Irregular

Abadan

Oil

Various

Irregular

**RUSSIA :**

Novorossish

Barley

Various

Irregular

**RUMANIA :**

Braila

Barley

Various

Irregular

**TUNISIA :**

Tunis, Sfax, Susa

Ore and phosphates

Various

Irregular

**VENEZUELA :**

Curacao

Kerosine, petroleum,  
benzene

Various

Irregular

**WEST INDIES :**Trinidad  
and Aruba

Fuel Oil

Various

Irregular

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**EXPORTS FOREIGN.**Manures and lime, confectionery, potatoes, salt, cattle cake and meal,  
and generals sent to the Channel Islands.

Fish is sent to Italy and France.

Blood meal, clay, scrap tyres, metal and skins are sent to Germany.

China clay is sent to Holland and Germany.

Wolfram ore to Hamburg.

Wool to Germany, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Poland, America and Greece.

Superphosphates to Lithuania.

Spirits to all parts of the world.

Cider, blacklead, spirits, pottery, paper, clay, earthenware pipes, agricultural  
machinery to Eire.**EXPORTS COASTWISE**

Stone to Southampton and London.

Clay, confectionery, cider, and government stores to Glasgow.

General to all parts of England, Scotland and Ireland.



TABLE B (c).

THE VARIOUS LINES USING PLYMOUTH AS A PORT  
OF CALL.

American Merchant Line	...	New York.
Bibby Line	... ..	Burma, Ceylon and Egypt.
Blue Funnel Line	... ..	China and India.
Blue Star Line	... ..	River Plate and Lisbon.
British India Line	... ..	Indian and East African Ports.
City Line	... ..	Indian Ports.
Cunard Line	... ..	New York, Montreal and Quebec
Elder Dempster Line	... ..	West Coast of Africa.
Ellerman Bucknall Line	... ..	South African Ports.
French Line (homeward only)		New York and West Indies.
Hall Line	... ..	Indian Ports.
Hamburg America Line	... ..	Mexico, Central American and West Indies.
Harrison Line	... ..	Demerara, Trinidad and Bar- bados.
Henderson Line	... ..	Rangoon.
Holland America Line	... ..	New York.
Johnson Line	... ..	Pacific and Central American Ports.
New Zealand Shipping Co.	... ..	New Zealand.
Norddeutscher Lloyd Line	... ..	New York.
Orient Line	... ..	Australian Ports.
Pacific Steam Navigation Co.		West Coast of South America.
Peninsular and Oriental Line	... ..	India, China, Japan, Australia and Colombo.
Royal Netherlands Line	... ..	West Indies.
United States Line	... ..	New York.

### III. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

(a) *For the Port.*

Great Western Docks.	Plymouth Corporation Water
Cattedown & Sutton Harbour	Department from hydrants on the wharves.

(b) *For Shipping.* The only water boat supplying fresh water to shipping in the Port is the *Ela*, of 5,500 gallons capacity.

(c) *Number of Water Boats and Sanitary Condition.* For shipping, water is derived either from the hydrants on the wharves or from the *Ela*. The tanks of the *Ela* were inspected periodically throughout the year and were found to be in a wholesome condition. The water was found to be satisfactory on bacteriological examination.

### IV. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

(1) Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health.

(2) Boarding of vessels on Arrival.

(3) Notification of the Authority of inward vessels requiring Special Attention.

(4) Mooring stations designated under Article 10.

(5) Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.

(6) Experience of working of Article 16.

(7) Arrangements made for :—

(a) Premises and waiting-room for medical examination.

(b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles.

(c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the Regulations.

(d) Hospital accommodation available for Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox and other infectious diseases.

(e) Ambulance transport.

(f) Supervision of contacts.

(8) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rats for plague.

(9) Arrangements for other bacteriological or pathological examinations.

(10) Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among sailors under the international arrangements.

(11) Arrangements for the interment of the dead.

(12) Other matters.

All the above arrangements have remained unchanged throughout the year and have proved satisfactory.

## V. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) s.s. *Blackhill*. This boat arrived at Plymouth from Breira, having landed a member of the crew through sickness at Phillipville. The man subsequently died, and death was certified as being due to Typhus Fever. The vessel and crew were inspected on arrival at Plymouth and all necessary precautions were taken ; the crew's quarters were sprayed and fumigated, and all clothes and bedding were disinfected in the steam disinfecter.

(b) s.s. *Cathay*. This vessel called at Plymouth on March 3rd from Australia. Notification of a case of measles was received, but on inspection the rash presented several unusual features, and subsequently proved to be smallpox. The usual precautions were taken with regard to contacts, and no further cases occurred either in the Port or in passengers disembarking at Plymouth.

(c) Details of other cases of infectious disease which were dealt with will be found on page 165.

TABLE C.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM  
VESSELS.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Cases during 1938</i>		<i>Average No. of cases for previous 5 years</i>	<i>No. of Vessels concerned</i>
	<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>		
Pneumonia ... ..	1	—	1.4	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1	7.6	2
Malaria (Contracted abroad) ... ..	4	5	2.4	3
Venereal Disease ...	2	—	1.2	1
TOTALS ...	8	6	—	7



TABLE D.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON  
VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF  
PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Cases during 1938</i>		<i>Average No. of cases for previous 5 years</i>	<i>No. of Vessels concerned</i>
	<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>		
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	1.6	1
Continued Fever ...	—	1	0.2	1
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis ... ..	1	—	3.8	1
Malaria (Contracted abroad) ... ..	—	1	2.0	1
Chicken-pox ... ..	2	3	5.8	5
Influenza ... ..	12	—	2.6	1
Measles ... ..	2	3	5.4	4
Venereal Disease ...	—	3	4.0	2
Mumps ... ..	2	2	1.6	4
Enteric Fever ... ..	3	3	3.8	5
TOTALS ... ..	23	16	—	25

# **CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR 1938.**

	NUMBER OF CASES INVESTIGATED			TOTALS	
	<i>Disposed of during voyage</i>	<i>Landed at Ply- mouth.</i>	<i>Pro- ceeded in Ship</i>	<i>Passen- gers</i>	<i>Crew</i>
Influenza ...	12	—	1	8	5
Smallpox... ..	—	—	1	1	—
Enteric Fever ...	9	—	1	5	5
Pneumonia ...	6	1	5	6	6
Dysentery ...	1	—	6	7	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2	13	14	2
Tuberculosis (other forms)	1	—	2	2	1
Malaria ... ..	3	6	21	18	12
Chicken Pox ...	5	—	8	6	7
Measles ...	5	—	11	15	1
Venereal Disease	3	2	40	14	31
Mumps ... ..	4	—	8	6	6
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	1	—
Continued Fever	1	—	—	—	1
Dengue Fever ...	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS ...	51	11	119	103	78

## **Medical work under the Aliens Order, 1920.**

The number of aliens landed at this Port during the year was 13,544, in addition to 98 alien seamen, all of whom were either medically examined or inspected ; 248 were subjected to detailed examination for various reasons, but it was not found necessary to refuse permission to land in any case, although one certificate of conditional landing was issued in the case of an alien suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis who had arranged Private Nursing Home treatment. Those staying over three months were treated as immigrants and subjected to more careful medical examination, so that no alien should be permitted to land who, by reason of physical or mental infirmity might become a burden or charge on the community.

## V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

- (1) Steps taken for the detection of rodent plague.
- (2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between the ships and the shore.
- (3) Methods of deratisation of (*a*) Ships, and (*b*) Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.
- (4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore.
- (5) Rat proofing.

The measures taken under all the above headings remain unchanged. Plague precautions were carried out in 56 vessels arriving from plague-infected or suspected ports and suitable measures taken to prevent rats from leaving or gaining access to the ships.

It is interesting to record that, in spite of several very careful inspections, evidence of the presence of rats was only found on two ships. This must be contrasted with the large number of rats caught in the docks, quays, wharves and warehouses of the Port, but unfortunately many of the latter are old in structure and provide ample rat harbourage. Whenever possible, advice is given on rat proofing, but short of very expensive reconstruction of several of the older buildings, one cannot hope for any material diminution in the number of rats caught. One hardly ever sees any evidence of rats in the modern type of warehouse such as are found at Victoria Wharves.

Thirty-one Deratisation Exemption Certificates were issued. In three cases a month's extension was granted, and the ships were allowed to proceed for fumigation either at their home ports or next port of loading. In each exception the appropriate Authority was notified. The contractors' prices for fumigation appear to be relatively high at Plymouth, and ships are reluctant to undergo fumigation because of the cost.

Forty-eight rats were examined for plague, but no evidence of this disease was found. Further details will be found in Tables E to H.

**Parrots (Prohibition of Import Regulations, 1930)** Four visits were paid to ships in pursuance of these Regulations. One parrot and three love-birds were destroyed.



**Oil in Navigable Waters** On the whole, the water within the area of the

Port of Plymouth is free from the presence of oil, but occasionally small amounts are seen. The following is a report of an inspection made in the forenoon of April 14th :—

“ A tour of inspection was made in the launch in view of the fact that oil was seen to be present on the surface of the water outside the Port Health Office.

Inspection was made of the foreshore from Millbay Pier to Phoenix Wharf, Mount Batten Breakwater, Jennycliffe Bay, thence to the ‘ Bridge ’ between Drake’s Island and Ravenness Point, into the Hamoaze as far as Mount Wise Swimming Pool, and back to Drake’s Island, and into Millbay Docks.

Patches of oil between 30 and 40 yards broad were found at the following points—

Between Millbay Docks and the sewage outfall opposite West Hoe Terrace.

Around the steps of the bathing place at Tinside.

Just south of the Breakwater at Mount Batten.

Midway between the latter point and Jennycliffe Bay.

A large patch was found all round the north side of Drake’s Island.

Small patches were found between Drake’s Island and Millbay Pier, and slight contamination was present on the surface of the water throughout the Millbay Docks.

The contamination on the surface of the water was not sufficient to justify action under the Oil in Navigable Waters Act.

The condition of the tide was one hour off full-ebb tide. The sea was calm to begin with, with a slight breeze springing up later from South-East.”

In December an investigation was made of the presence of oil on the waters of the Cattewater. It seemed probable that this was coming from certain commercial works in the neighbourhood, and steps are now being taken by the firms concerned to avoid a recurrence. No complaints have been received from fishermen.

#### **Oysters**

In my Annual Report for 1937 I gave a brief account of the process of oyster cleansing which is carried out at the Yealm Oyster Fisheries, under the supervision of the Port Health Authority. This plant has continued to function throughout the present season with very satisfactory results.



**Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934** It was not necessary to take any legal action under the Order made by the City Council on December 1st, 1937, under the above Regulations, whereby certain shellfish beds were closed.

Shellfish sold in the City of Plymouth come from the following sources :—

Cockles	...	King's Lynn.
Limpets	...	Foreshore from Mount Batten to Wembury. Port Wrinkle, Cornwall.
Periwinkles	...	Foreshore from Mount Batten to Wembury. Port Wrinkle, Cornwall.
Oysters ...	...	Brightlingsea, Essex. Billingsgate Market, London. River Yealm, Steer Point.
Queens and Escallops	...	Plymouth and Brixham, landed by trawlers.
Whelks	...	Plymouth, Brixham and Torbay, landed by trawlers.

Oysters dredged from the River Yealm are sent to London and to local dealers in Plymouth. No other shellfish are sent outside the area.

**Swimming Pools** *Tinside.* Throughout the year the sea-water in this pool was chlorinated, the concentration of free chlorine being kept between .1 and .4 parts per million. There have been no serious complaints attributable to the presence of chlorine. During the season 43 samples of water were taken, and the results were satisfactory.

*Mount Wise Swimming Baths.* Thirty-two samples were taken from No. 1 basin, 32 from No. 2 basin, and 32 from No. 3 basin. During the early part of the season the results were not entirely satisfactory. A simple method of chlorination was adopted on August 26th, and since that date the results have been satisfactory.

*Other Swimming Places.* Samples were taken from Laira, Lion's Den, Shackey Pool, the Men's Bath near Pier, and the Paddling Pool at Devil's Point. In all these samples totalled 37 and none were quite satisfactory. Five out of seven samples taken at the Ladies' Bath, Tinside, proved unsatisfactory.

**Foodstuffs.** A systematic inspection of foodstuffs landed in the Port resulted in 791 vessels being visited in this connection, and nearly 41 tons of foodstuffs were dealt with as being unsound, unwholesome, and otherwise unfit for human consumption. Details are given in the following table :—

FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

<i>Division.</i>			Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	<i>Disposal.</i>
3.	Apricots	... 2 tins				2	To Incinerator.
	Corned Beef	18 tins			1	10	do.
	Fruit Salad	2 tins				2	do.
	Grape Fruit	2 tins				3	do.
	Hams	... 21 tins		2	2	0	do.
	Peaches	... 1 tin				1	do.
	Pears	... 4 tins				4	do.
	Pineapple	... 46 tins			2	13	do.
	Preserved						
	Ginger	... 6 jars				6	do.
	Prunes	... 22 tins				22	do.
	Raspberry						
	Pulp	... 1 tin				14	do.
	Tomatoes	... 5 tins				5	do.
	Tongue	... 1 tin				7	do.
	Veal	... 3 tins				17	do.
4.	Carrots	... ...	3	11	0	0	For Pigs' Food.
	Chestnuts	... ...		5	0	0	To Controlled Tip.
	Oranges	... ...		7	0	0	do.
	Parsnips	... ...	1	14	0	0	For Pigs' Food.
	Potatoes	... ...		2	0	0	To Controlled Tip.
	Strawberries	... ...		1	0	0	do.
5.	Barley	... ...	34	0	0	0	Part burnt, rest
							jettisoned at sea.
	TOTAL	...	40	4	0	22	

Three parcels of apples were found to contain 0.009, 0.0025 and 0.007 respectively grains arsenious oxide per pound. As the average generally regarded permissible is .01 grains per pound, in each case the apples were allowed to pass.

Four samples of currants were found to contain 16, 5, 12 and 0 parts per million of copper. Inquiries are still being pursued as to the source of this copper, but it seems probable that it is the result of spraying the vines with a copper solution. Copper occurs naturally in a great many foods, and in none of the above cases was the amount considered harmful.

TABLE E.  
RATS DESTROYED DURING 1938.

I. ON VESSELS.

<i>Number of</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Black Rats ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	2	16	—	23
Brown Rats ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rats examined ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rats infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

II. IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES.

<i>Number of</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Black Rats ...	42	—	4	8	2	2	—	5	7	—	—	—	70
Brown Rats ...	67	110	142	88	141	94	121	19	59	129	174	116	1,260
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rats examined ...	13	10	3	2	3	2	—	1	—	6	8	—	48
Rats infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



MEASURES OF RAT DESTRUCTION ON PLAGUE "INFECTED" OR "SUSPECTED" VESSELS OR VESSELS FROM PLAGUE-INFECTED PORTS ARRIVING IN THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Total Number of such Vessels arriving from Plague infected Ports.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by S.O.2.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by H.C.N.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out.
56	—	—	—	—	2	23	54

TABLE H.  
DERATISATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Net Tonnage.	No. of Ships.	No. OF DERATISATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED.					No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued.	Total No. Certificates issued.
		After fumigation with		After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.	Total.			
		H.C.N.	Sulphur.			H.C.N. and Sulphur.		
Ships up to 300 tons ...	19	—	—	—	—	19	19	
Ships from 301 tons to 1000 tons ...	10	—	—	—	—	10	10	
Ships from 1001 tons to 3000 tons ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Ships from 3001 tons to 10,000 tons ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	
TOTAL ...	31	—	—	—	—	31	31	







## RAT GRAPH 1938.

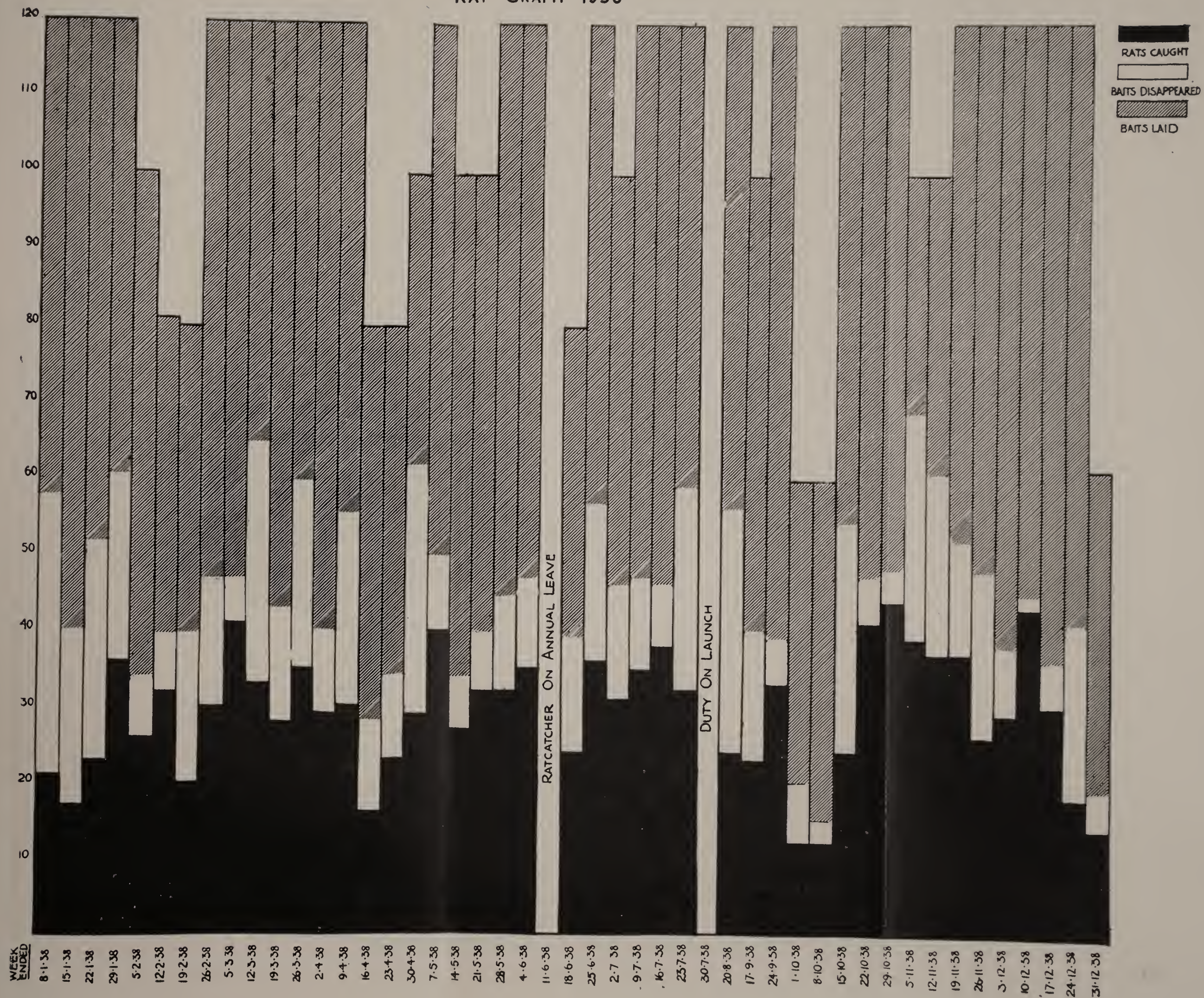






TABLE J.

CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessels.	Number inspected during 1938.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British ... ..	1473	—	154	198
Other Nations ...	396	—	8	15



**RECORDS OF VESSELS INSPECTED, TONNAGE, CREWS, PASSENGERS, SICKNESS, ETC., FOR THE  
TEN YEARS ENDED 1938.**

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Vessels In- spected</i>	NATIONALITY		<i>No. of Crews on Board</i>	<i>Registered Tonnage</i>	SICKNESS		PASSENGERS		<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Landed for Treat- ment</i>	INSANITARY	
		<i>British</i>	<i>Foreign</i>			<i>During Voyage</i>	<i>In- fectious</i>	<i>On Board</i>	<i>Landing</i>			<i>No. of Vessels</i>	<i>No. of Defects</i>
1929	2,261	1,781	480	248,119	6,565,530	1,224	636	213,386	47,471	71	134	103	633
1930	2,071	1,424	647	267,973	7,343,851	1,401	637	224,753	45,002	60	160	83	314
1931	1,940	1,363	577	225,010	6,612,552	1,321	776	180,285	34,744	60	108	55	212
1932	1,994	1,475	519	195,516	6,538,655	1,226	778	156,874	31,468	36	207	27	284
1933	2,082	1,542	540	215,972	6,609,646	702	394	120,916	28,264	55	85	13	94
1934	2,105	1,175	1,030	191,569	6,666,558	224	116	128,177	31,417	55	22	31	146
1935	1,980	1,445	535	154,777	5,493,853	333	276	110,963	34,634	52	14	45	183
1936	2,269	1,280	989	177,468	5,481,037	207	190	100,912	31,572	55	23	59	262
1937	2,265	1,686	579	215,879	5,735,941	187	174	107,001	33,256	50	15	49	104
1938	2,336	1,702	634	210,231	5,570,299	247	181	110,308	31,551	48	14	53	375

**Hygiene of  
Crews' Spaces**

In 1937 we received a memorandum entitled "Instructions as to the Survey of Master's and Crew's Spaces," asking for co-operation between the Port Health Authority and the Board of Trade to obtain an improvement in the living conditions of seamen. Apart from fishing vessels there are very few ships which have Plymouth as their home port. The crews' quarters are inspected by the Port Sanitary Inspector and action taken when nuisances are found to exist.

There is considerable variation in the quality of accommodation provided for crews, and also considerable variation in the way quarters are kept by the crews themselves, and in most cases one must admit that nuisances are caused by negligence on the part of those responsible for the supervision of crews' quarters.

Such conditions as choked drains, foul water-closets and uncleanness should never occur if adequate supervision is given and adequate time allowed for the purpose of cleansing. One must contrast the conditions found on nearly all Scandinavian vessels, in which there are adequately ventilated two-berth cabins which are always found to be clean and sanitary, to the quarters found in certain other ships where there appears to be very little attempt to procure a reasonable standard of sanitation.

Only two vessels were found to be bug infested, and these were treated by sulphur fumigation.

Where it appeared necessary to carry out alterations in structure, a report was made to the local officer of the Board of Trade.



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## School Medical Service

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## REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

### (1) STAFF.

#### *Changes in Staff.*

Dr. J. W. E. Cole, Senior School Medical Officer, retired on March 24th, 1938, the Education Committee passing a resolution thanking him for his valued services during the last seventeen years. He was succeeded by Dr. T. H. Harrison, Deputy Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for Cambridgeshire County Council.

Mr. J. F. Gray commenced duty as Dental Surgeon on February 14th, 1938, to take the place of Mr. G. V. Lavelle, who resigned at the end of 1937, the work being done in the interval by a locum.

Nurse E. M. B. Parkinson retired on February 2nd, 1938, and Nurse M. J. Fletcher on October 12th, 1938. To take their places Nurses F. Pritchard and E. J. Gale were transferred from dental duties to general school duties and open air school duties respectively, Nurse J. Bowden being transferred from open air school duties to special (M.D.) school duties. Two dental attendants, Miss J. Redman and Miss D. H. Edwards, were appointed to fill the places of the nurses transferred from dental duties in continuation of the policy of replacing these nurses by dental attendants. This leaves only one nurse now doing dental duties who will be transferred to general school duties when the next vacancy occurs in the nursing staff and replaced by a dental attendant.

#### *Medical Staff.*

Apart from the School Medical Officer, who is also Medical Officer of Health, there are one Senior and two Assistant School Medical Officers. The latter three officers are full time officers of the Education Committee, although some of their time is spent in work which the Education Committee undertakes for other Committees. It is estimated that this gives an average of three full time medical Officers engaged on actual school medical work, or one medical officer to 8,500 children, compared with the average throughout the country of one to 6,450 children.

Whilst the size of the staff has remained unaltered since 1920 or so new duties have gradually been allocated to it, including those in connection with immunisation against diphtheria, children's homes, remand homes, junior instruction centres, examinations for free milk, examinations in connection with school camps, and

journeys, entertainment licences, employment licences, etc. In addition, the work and attendances at the clinics have increased continuously every year so that additional sessions have been allocated to clinics. This has now resulted in the position in which there is insufficient time left during the year to complete the routine medical inspections in all the schools, cases for examination for mental deficiency often have to wait several months, and insufficient time is available for general supervisory work by the Senior School Medical Officer.

As the present staff is now inadequate to deal with all the requirements made upon it, an additional medical officer is being appointed by the Education and Public Health Committees jointly, from April 1st, 1939, approximately half of whose time will be given to school medical work. This will enable the routine and other work to be kept up to date provided that no further sessions are required for clinics or further duties allocated to the school medical service.

#### *Dental Staff.*

The number of dentists employed full time on school medical work remains at four. This gives an equivalent of one dentist to about 6,375 children, compared with the maximum of 5,000 advised by the Board of Education for a satisfactory dental service.

The present staff of dentists continues to be quite inadequate. The Board recommend that the intervals between the dental examinations of children should not be greater than twelve months, but the intervals between these visits at some schools is now as much as three to four years, under the present scheme of inspection and treatment of all elementary school children, in rotation, at the shortest possible intervals.

The Education Committee has, however, decided that an additional dentist shall be appointed as soon as the proposed new central clinic is built, and have also decided that this additional dentist together with the four dentists now employed by the Education Committee and the one employed by the Public Health Committee shall then be co-ordinated into one dental service, one of the dentists being appointed Senior Dental Officer responsible for the service to the Medical Officer of Health. Under the scheme the Education Committee will receive the services of an equivalent of five full time dentists, including a proportion of the time of the Senior Dental Officer.



### *Nursing Staff.*

The additional duties and work of the medical staff have automatically increased the work of the nursing staff, and it has been found that insufficient time has been available for the routine inspections of heads and general cleanliness examinations in the schools. There are at present six full time general school nurses and three full time special school nurses and a nurse employed half time at the ophthalmic clinic. This gives approximately 4,250 children per general nurse compared with 2,500–3,000 advised by the Board of Education.

The Education Committee has therefore decided that the three special school nurses shall give approximately half time to their special school duties and the rest of their time to general school duties, and that the half time ophthalmic nurse shall be made full time, her additional time being also given to general school duties. This will result in the equivalent of two extra full time nurses being available for general school duties, giving an average of just over 3,000 children per general nurse.

At the special schools attendants will be appointed to help with bathing of children, supervision at meals, laundry and other duties not requiring the time of a fully trained nurse. This will come into effect as from April 1st, 1939.

### (2) CO-ORDINATION.

The arrangements for the co-ordination of the work of the school medical service with that of the other health services, including Infant Welfare, Tuberculosis, Venereal Diseases, and Immunisation against Diphtheria remain the same as described in previous reports and continue to work satisfactorily.

### (3) SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The following alterations and improvements have taken place in schools during 1938.

1. Adaptation of premises of Former Military Hospital, Stoke, to provide new schools for—

- (a) Tamar Central School;
- (b) Stoke Senior Boys' School;
- (c) Valletort Senior Boys' School;
- (d) Junior Technical School;

together with gymnasium and exercise room block and dining block.



2. Reconstruction of premises of York Street and Treville Street Schools.
3. Provision of protection fence at Public Junior Mixed School.
4. Improvement of lighting at Plymouth Art School.
5. Provision of drinking fountains at Marsh Mills Playing Field, Camel's Head Junior Mixed, Ford Junior Mixed, Ford Girls', Morice Town Infants', Stuart Road Girls' (2) Schools.
6. Provision of gas water-heaters at Portland Square School of Housecraft, and for nursery classes at Camel's Head, Castle Street, Cornwall Street, East Street, Ford, High Street, Hyde Park, Ker Street, Keyham College Road, Laira Green, Morice Town, Mount Street, Palace Court, Paradise Road, Public Junior Mixed, Salisbury Road, Stuart Road, Sutton Road and Union Street Schools.
7. Provision of hot-water supply to wash basins at Little Efford Open Air School.
8. Improvement of heating system at Laira Green Junior Mixed and Montpelier Temporary premises and Salisbury Road Schools.
9. Renewal of drains at East Street School.
10. Renovation, etc., of Halwell House for use by Plymouth Art School.
11. Adaptation of premises for use as coppersmith's shop by Plymouth Technical College.
12. Erection of temporary building to provide additional accommodation for the Victoria Road School.
13. Improvement of drainage of Remand Home, Laira.

The adaptation of the premises of the former Military Hospital, Stoke, most of which was built in 1858, to provide four new schools, and the reconstruction of the old Treville Street and York Street Schools, both built in 1872, have resulted in buildings that conform to modern ideas of planning, hygienic conditions and sanitation.

A gymnasium block is provided at the Stoke Schools, with four separate changing rooms, each having hot and cold showers and lavatories, and a towel-drying room; whilst the gymnasium at Treville Street School has a changing room, with a shower annexe,

adjoining and directly communicating with it. At York Street School two bathrooms are provided. There are also milk stores for storing and warming milk at the York Street and Treville Street Schools, and a large dining-room, together with kitchen, stores, larder, pantry and wash-up at the Stoke Schools, the kitchen being equipped with gas cookers, gas water-boiler and gas-heated steam ovens.

Unfortunately, in these reconditioned schools no medical inspection rooms have been provided, and medical inspections have to take place in any available rooms, including the Headmaster's rooms, staff rooms, or even the dining hall.

#### (4) MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Whilst all the prescribed age groups were inspected during the year, it was found impossible to complete the routine inspections in every school. A total of 6,481 routine medical inspections was done, compared with 7,418 last year.

The general arrangements remained unchanged, and thanks are due to the Head Teachers, who are put to considerable inconvenience to ensure the smooth carrying out of inspections. Conditions, however, are by no means ideal in some schools on account of noise, poor lighting, rooms too short for eye testing, insufficient heating, and lack of suitable dressing accommodation for the children, and also waiting accommodation for their parents, outside the actual examination room. The only satisfactory remedy for this is to provide medical examination rooms, specially planned for the purpose, in every school. Whilst this may be difficult or impossible in the old schools, it should present no insuperable difficulty in the new or reconstructed schools.

#### (5) FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

##### (a) *Malnutrition.*

The classification of the nutrition of the children inspected in the routine age groups during the year, as Excellent (A), Normal (B), Slightly Subnormal (C), and Bad (D), give the following results:—

A	...	...	...	18·75
B	...	...	...	77·67
C	...	...	...	3·55
D	...	...	...	0·03

The figures for the previous three years are as follows:—

		1935	1936	1937	Average
		%	%	%	%
A	...	22·34	20·37	15·96	19·56
B	...	72·59	78·60	82·70	77·96
C	...	5·02	1·04	1·33	2·46
D	...	0·05	0	0	0·02

Whilst there is a variation in the figures for the different years, possibly accounted for by the fact that different children were examined each year, the figures for 1938 and the average for the three preceding years are very similar.

The comparable figures for the whole of England and Wales are:—

		1935	1936	1937	Average
		%	%	%	%
A	...	14·6	14·6	15·0	14·7
B	...	74·1	74·2	73·8	74·0
C	...	10·6	10·5	10·6	10·6
D	...	0·6	0·7	0·7	0·7

From these figures it appears that the nutrition of Plymouth children is definitely better than the average for England and Wales, and this is what one would have anticipated, as the latter figures include those from the depressed areas and the poor agricultural counties.

(b) *Uncleanliness.*

The six general school nurses made 63,622 examinations of children during the year, visiting each school an average of 3·9 times, and found 2,435 children to be unclean.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

		1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number of examinations	...	69,376	60,895	63,314	62,931	63,622
Number found unclean	...	2,994	2,149	2,873	2,911	2,435
Number of visits per school	...	3·8	3·8	4·0	3·7	3·9

There is thus no continuous improvement in the number of children found unclean in the last five years, and the percentage of children in attendance who are found unclean is just over 11 per cent. this year.



(c) *Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.*

At routine inspections no cases of ringworm of the scalp were discovered, and only three of ringworm of the body. Seven cases of scabies, 32 of impetigo and 103 other skin diseases were discovered.

At special inspections, however, almost all of which took place in the school clinics, 37 cases of ringworm of scalp, 64 of ringworm of body, 115 of scabies, 320 of impetigo and 530 other skin diseases were discovered.

The considerable difference between the number of cases discovered at routine inspections and special inspections indicates that the majority of teachers and parents not only realise that such cases should be promptly treated, but that they actually refer them to the school clinics as and when they arise.

The total of 37 cases of ringworm of the scalp discovered this year compares with 36 in 1937 and 23 in 1936, and of these, 37 this year, 32 in 1937, and 23 in 1936 required treatment.

Sixty-seven cases of ringworm of the body this year compare with 85 in 1937 and 95 in 1936, and of these, 66 this year, 83 in 1937, and 95 in 1936 required treatment, so that against the rise in cases of ringworm of the scalp requiring treatment there is a fall in cases of ringworm of the body requiring treatment.

The total number of cases of scabies has dropped to 122 this year from 198 in 1937 and 196 in 1936, although cases of impetigo have increased to 352 this year from 241 in 1937 and 187 in 1936.

(d) *Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.*

Cases of blepharitis have increased to 85 this year from 54 in 1937 and 57 in 1936, and of these, 64 this year, 41 in 1937, and 55 in 1936 required treatment.

Cases of conjunctivitis have also increased to 55 this year from 39 in 1937 and 42 in 1936, all requiring treatment.

Cases of defective vision have dropped to 1,130 this year from 1,184 in 1937 and 1,246 in 1936, and of these, 647 this year, 691 in 1937, and 733 in 1936 required treatment.

Cases of squint were 237 this year, 253 in 1937, and 218 in 1936, of which 115 this year, 135 in 1937, and 121 in 1936 required treatment.



(e) *Nose and Throat Defects.*

A total of 1,674 cases of chronic tonsillitis and adenoids, including cases of chronic tonsillitis only and adenoids only, were discovered, 790 of which were found to require treatment, compared with a total of 1,860 with 947 requiring treatment in 1937, and 1,609 with 768 requiring treatment in 1936. There is thus little change in the incidence of these defects on the average.

(f) *Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.*

Fifty-one cases of defective hearing were discovered this year, compared with 69 in 1937 and 44 in 1936, of which 37 this year, 49 in 1937, and 39 in 1936 required treatment, remaining about the same on the average. Cases of otitis media, however, have declined to 106 this year, compared with 119 in 1937 and 137 in 1936, of which 100 this year, 112 in 1937, and 136 in 1936 required treatment.

Other ear diseases were 224 this year, 206 in 1937 and 242 in 1936, of which 215 this year, 192 in 1937, and 224 in 1936 required treatment.

(g) *Dental defects.*

9,685 children were inspected as routines and 3,450 as specials this year, compared with 9,634 routines and 3,179 specials in 1937, and 10,171 routines and 2,834 specials in 1936.

The total numbers requiring treatment were 10,758 this year, 10,760 in 1937, and 10,500 in 1936, and the numbers actually treated were 7,660 this year, 7,842 in 1937, and 7,325 in 1936.

Only about 46 per cent. of the children in average attendance were inspected as routines during the year, compared with 16 per cent. seen as specials or casuals. These latter were almost all children who had received treatment after their last routine inspection or those who had not yet been inspected and offered treatment for some reason. Thus approximately a quarter of the dentists' time was spent in dealing with specials or casuals, and only approximately 62 per cent. of the children were seen at all, either as routines or specials. When only 46 per cent. of the children are inspected as routines each year, it is between two and three years before a child is seen again as a routine, and as treatment becomes necessary in this interval, the child will have to be treated as a special. Whilst the specials are being treated the routines are being delayed and more specials automatically created. This

vicious circle will continue until more children are seen as routines. The only satisfactory remedy for this is the appointment of additional dental staff until it is sufficient for each child to be seen as a routine each year.

(h) *Orthopædic and Postural defects.*

Only 5 cases of rickets were discovered this year, compared with 19 in 1937 and 21 in 1936; whilst 11 cases of spinal curvature were discovered this year, compared with 14 in 1937 and 15 in 1936. Other deformities were 265 this year, 155 in 1937, and 207 in 1936.

The total number of deformities found to require treatment was 161 this year, 106 in 1937, and 136 in 1936.

(i) *Heart Disease and Rheumatism.*

Only 22 cases of organic heart disease were discovered this year, compared with 43 in 1937 and 55 in 1936; whilst cases of functional heart disease were 59 this year, 36 in 1937, and 56 in 1936.

Cases of anæmia discovered were 109 this year, compared with 75 in 1937 and 85 in 1936.

(j) *Tuberculosis.*

Eleven cases of suspected pulmonary tuberculosis and 13 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered this year compared with 2 cases of definite and 10 of suspected pulmonary tuberculosis and 5 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in 1937, and 10 cases of definite and 16 of suspected pulmonary tuberculosis and 9 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in 1936. The drop in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis last year has thus been maintained, although more non-pulmonary cases have been discovered.

(k) *Other Defects and Diseases.*

3,793 other defects and diseases were discovered, compared with 3,683 in 1937 and 4,488 in 1936, of which 3,367 this year, 3,349 in 1937, and 4,044 in 1936 were discovered at special examinations, almost all at the school clinics.

(6) FOLLOWING UP.

The arrangements for following up of children suffering from the various defects remain the same as described in previous reports and continue to give satisfactory results.



The following is a summary of the work undertaken by the School Nurses:—

*6 General School Nurses.*

Ordinary follow-up visits ... ..	3,082
Visits for neglect (uncleanliness) ... ..	218
Visits for taking swabs from diphtheria contacts	293
Swabs taken ... ..	562
Visits to hospital with swabs ... ..	101

*3 Special School Nurses.*

Visits in connection with—

Mount Tamar Open Air School ... ..	94
Efford Open Air School ... ..	81
Salisbury Road M.D. Schools ... ..	618

*1 Ophthalmic Nurse.*

Visits ... ..	266
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(7) ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

The general arrangements for treatment remain unchanged and are as described in previous Reports.

*Princess Square Clinic.*

This is the administrative headquarters of the School Medical Service, and in addition there are accommodated the central medical inspection, minor ailment and dental clinics, the eye clinic, the ear clinic and stammering classes.

The premises are unsatisfactory, and the Education Committee has decided to replace the Princess Square Clinic by building a new central clinic which will also provide rooms for an additional dentist, and house an orthopædic clinic. This latter will then replace the two present Education Committee's orthopædic clinics, under a scheme for the co-ordination of the Education and Public Health Committees' orthopædic clinics which will come into operation with the provision of the new central clinic.

*Additional Clinic.*

There is no clinic situated in the eastern side of the City which is at present served by the Princess Square Clinic. The need for one is becoming increasingly evident in order to provide for the additional population now being transferred to the new housing estates which are being built in this area to re-house the people displaced from Clearance Areas in other parts of the City. This need is at present receiving the attention of the Education Committee.

### *Minor Ailment and Medical Inspection Clinics.*

The figures for these clinics for the last five years are as follows:—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Total attendances ...	50,187	51,537	51,786	55,228	63,155
New cases examined	7,503	7,824	8,883	9,763	9,488
New cases treated ...	7,100	7,391	8,360	9,429	9,090

In five years there has been an increase in attendances of 12,968 or 25 per cent., in new cases examined 1,985, or 26 per cent., and in new cases treated, 1,990, or 28 per cent. In comparison, the attendances in 1921 were 16,429, roughly a quarter of those this year.

This year the attendances have increased by 7,927, compared with an increase of 3,442 in 1937 and 249 in 1936.

Much of this increase has naturally fallen on the Princess Square Clinic, to which 44 per cent. of the school population is allocated for treatment of minor ailments and medical inspection.

It was, therefore, found necessary to increase the number of inspection clinic sessions at Princess Square from three a week to six (one daily), the extra sessions also allowing time for the examination of the special cases which were previously seen at special sessions.

### *Eye Clinic.*

The following report has been supplied by Dr. W. H. Davis, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., the Committee's eye specialist:—

“ The Eye Clinic has continued without interruption throughout the year.

Parents attend with all children, and in all cases instructions are given to the parents, especially with regard to Squint cases.

Re-examination of all Myopic cases is carried out every twelve months from prescribing glasses, and I find that a very large percentage show improvement and their vision is kept up to normal.

Treatment is given to all diseases, but a few more severe cases have to be admitted to the Eye Infirmary, as expert treatment and nursing cannot be carried out at their homes.

Specific cases are treated in co-operation with the V.D. and T.B. clinics.



The parents, as a whole, are taking a keener and more intelligent interest in their children and appreciate what is being done for them."

### *Ear Clinic.*

The following report has been supplied by Mr. R. Howarth, M.D., the Committee's ear specialist:—

"The work of the aural clinic has again increased slightly.

The attendances during 1938 were:—

New cases seen	...	...	...	315
Total attendances	...	...	...	917
Ionisation	...	...	...	25

The number of ionisations has fallen considerably, because this type of treatment has been found useful only in certain types of ear disease, which must be carefully selected to ensure a successful result by ionisation. Many cases of recurring or chronic ear discharge may be cured by the timely removal of unhealthy tonsils or of adenoids, whilst others of long-standing can only be cured by the removal of the disease surgically from the mastoid bone. Several such cases have been dealt with during the year, with complete relief from the offensive discharge.

The work of the clinic could be rendered more effective if all parents understood that the 'running ear' is the beginning of what often comes to be a serious condition and a danger to life; yet in the early stages it is often curable."

Arrangements have been made whereby information regarding aural complications is sent from the Isolation Hospital to the School Medical Officers.

### *Tonsil and Adenoid Operations.*

The general arrangements under the Authority's scheme remained unaltered, and a total of 226 operations was done under the scheme, compared with 270 in 1937, and 281 in 1936.

### *Orthopædic Clinics.*

The following work has been carried out at the two clinics:—

New patients examined by Medical Officers	...	...	...	152
Re-examinations by the Medical Officers	...	...	...	495
Patients treated	...	...	...	250

Patients under treatment on Dec. 31st, 1937	...	...	...	102
Patients admitted during 1938	...	...	...	148
Patients discharged during 1938	...	...	...	97
Patients under treatment on Dec. 31st, 1938	...	...	...	153
Attendances for treatment	...	...	...	10,504
Attendances for After-care	...	...	...	265
Plasters made	...	...	...	79
Celluloid splints made	...	...	...	22
Leather repairs done at the clinics	...	...	...	106
New leathers supplied at the clinic	...	...	...	95
New boots, etc., supplied	...	...	...	173
Repairs to boots, etc.	...	...	...	1,856

There has been a considerable increase in the work of the clinics this year, compared with previous years, as the following figures show:—

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
New cases	59	78	110	74	148
Attendances	8,404	7,362	8,586	7,710	10,504

The number of new cases this year has risen to 148 from the average of 80 for the preceding four years, an increase of 85 per cent.; whilst the attendances have risen to 10,504 from the average of 8,015 for the preceding four years, an increase of 31 per cent.

This increase is chiefly due to cases of flat feet, knock-knees and postural scoliosis, which parents are now more willing to have treated.

#### *Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital and School for Cripples.*

During the year, 26 of the Authority's children were admitted to this Institution and 26 discharged.

The causes for admission were:—

Scoliosis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Torticollis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Soulter's Operation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Genu Valgum	...	...	...	...	...	2
Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Step up	...	...	...	...	...	1
Arthrodesis of feet	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hammer toes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Straightening toes	...	...	...	...	...	1

Slipped double epiphysis	...	...	...	1
Fracture left femur	..	...	...	1
Contraction of left foot	...	...	...	1
Straightening of contracted finger	...	...	...	2
T.B. spine	...	...	...	1
Osteomyelitis	...	...	...	2
Rheumatoid disease of tarsal bone			...	1
Septic arthritis right hip	...	...	...	1
Removal of ganglion on foot		...	...	1
Arthrotomy and excision of glands of groin				1

### *X-Ray Treatment of Ringworm.*

Under the Authority's scheme, 3 cases were treated this year, compared with 7 in 1937, 0 in 1936, 1 in 1935, and 6 in 1934.

### *Stammering and Defective Speech Classes.*

These classes were held regularly throughout the year at Princess Square Clinic, North Prospect Clinic, Albert Road Clinic, Salisbury Road Special School and Frederick Street School.

The following report has been supplied by Miss Beryl Primrose-Wells, Diploma in Dramatic Art, London University, the Committee's teacher for stammering and defective speech classes:—

" Number of children on the Register on Jan. 1st, 1938	...	51
,,       ,,       admitted to classes during 1938	...	25
,,       ,,       discharged from classes during 1938		8
,,       ,,       who left the classes for other reasons		
in 1938	...   ...   ...   ...	18
,,       ,,       on the register on Dec. 31st, 1938	...	50

As will be seen from the above statistics, there have been a considerable number of new children admitted to the classes. Eight have been discharged by the doctor as being cured of their defects, and some have left school or moved their residences and therefore no longer attend the classes.

There is a considerable improvement to be noted in most cases, and the children are conscious that they are benefiting from the classes.

We have purchased a set of rubber air cushions for the children to use as pillows during the period when they are relaxing on mats on the floor. These are a great asset.

Altogether the classes are quite satisfactory."



### *Child Guidance Clinic.*

Thirty-six cases were referred to the Child Guidance Clinic this year, as follows:—

Eneuresis	...	...	...	...	15
Behaviour difficulties	...	...	...	...	7
Nervous conditions	...	...	...	...	5
Pilfering	...	...	...	...	4
Truancy	...	...	...	...	2
Unclean habits	...	...	...	...	2
Backwardness	...	...	...	...	1

### (8) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no serious outbreak of disease in any school during the year. Single cases have occurred in many schools, and several cases in some. Where two or three cases have occurred together in any department, or where there has been a succession of single cases, the department has been visited and the classes examined for missed cases and carriers and any other necessary action taken.

No schools have been closed on account of infectious disease during the year, and in only two schools has it been necessary to issue a certificate that the attendance has fallen below 60 per cent. on account of infectious disease, the cause in these cases being measles and epidemic sickness.

The arrangements for the immunisation of school children and the swabbing of diphtheria contacts remain the same and are as described in previous Reports.

### (9) OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

Arrangements for open air education, other than in certified open air schools, are:—

#### (a) *Playground Classes.*

At schools where there is suitable space in the playground, lessons are often given in the open air during the summer months.

#### (b) *School Journeys and Camps.*

##### (i) *School Journeys.*

1,457 children from 16 schools made 40 school journeys to 23 places, such as Drizzlecombe, Princetown, Clearbrook, Plympton, St. Germans, Shaugh Bridge, Lee Mill, Buckfast Abbey.

##### (ii) *School Camps.*

993 children (748 boys and 254 girls) attended camp. Of these, 853 boys and girls went to Maker Camp, and 140 boys to Laira Fort.



## (10) PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The reports of the physical training organisers are as follows:—

### BOYS.

#### *General.*

The outstanding event this year has been the completion of the large Gymnasium Block at the old Military Hospital site. Contained in this block are two fully equipped gymnasia, four changing rooms with showers, one drying room, one store room, Staff room and the usual offices; whilst outside the block there is a large space for work in the open. There is also a playing pitch attached for Organised Games.

Another Senior School with a fully equipped gymnasium was opened in September. This school is also provided with suitable changing rooms and shower baths, and the work is in the hands of a fully qualified instructor.

These Gymnasia will not only play a very important part in the physical well-being of the school child, but will form a very important link with the Old Boys' Clubs of the various schools. In connection with the "Keep Fit" classes, these up-to-date gymnasia are having a good effect, and many demands are being placed on them.

An effort is being made to cultivate Old Boys' Clubs in connection with the Senior Schools. There are already a few very flourishing clubs of this kind, and by extending the idea it is felt that many more adolescents could be drawn into Club life and its amenities. The gymnasium of their old school would be placed at their disposal, together with an Instructor, as one of the phases of their Club work. Along these lines it is evident that much valuable social work is possible.

#### *Organised Games.*

Each year shows a growing demand for playing pitches, and locally we are not too well off for open spaces. Two new playing fields have been added in recent years, but more pitches on the Parks have been required to keep all the schools fully provided. With the Committee's fields, apparatus and marking are always ready, and the games period can be carried out in good order.

The Schools' Athletic Association has been granted the use of the Committee's fields for football on Saturdays, and cricket during the summer evenings. The advance of School Sports' Days has been most marked during the past few years. It is pleasing to record that these sports are well organised and carried out in good order. Such sports are a social asset to the Senior School, as they bring the parents and teachers together on a very pleasing occasion.

#### *School Camps.*

The Committee are fortunate in having at their disposal, through the generosity of the Plymouth Youth Organisation Committee, two standing Camps and one tented Camp. The main Camp used by the schools is at Maker Barracks—an ideal site in every respect.

At this Camp most of our schools spend a week or a fortnight during the summer term. For several years courses in outdoor studies, suitable for School Camps, were held in order that the teachers in charge of parties should know the kind of material suitable for the district.

During the 1938 season, 17 Senior and Secondary Schools visited the Camp for an average stay of eight days. One of the most pleasing features of our camping work is the opportunity given to the Juvenile Instruction Centre to attend Camp, where they have done extremely fine work in maintaining and extending camping facilities.

For many years the boys of the Special School have spent a month annually at a small standing Camp at Laira. This month has been a feature of their school activities, and much benefit has been derived from their annual Camp.

#### *Swimming.*

The past season was not a favourable one for outdoor swimming. The eight weeks' intensive training during the summer was sadly depleted on account of the bad weather. Nevertheless, much good work was accomplished amongst the senior boys in connection with the local Medallion Test and the R.L.S.S. awards.

#### *Evening Classes. "Keep Fit" (Men).*

With the extension of this work during the previous year, the Committee decided on the appointment of an "Instructor Leader" to organise and run the various classes under this heading.

During the spring and summer terms the work was continued as before, but on the Instructor Leader taking up his duties at the beginning of September, an extension of the work was undertaken. A fully equipped gymnasium was available and much of the work was transferred to it.

*Fencing* (open to men and women) was offered on two evenings per week, and three classes were well attended and a good standard of work was reached.

*"Keep Fit"* Classes for various ages were offered on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Four classes were formed and were well attended.

*Training for Athletes* was offered on Tuesday evenings at two Gymnasias, and two Rugger classes and two Soccer classes were formed, and great benefit was derived from this training.

One of the Soccer classes was made up of deaf and dumb young men, and it was delightful to watch their enthusiasm and to be able to do something worth while for these people.

*Badminton* was added to the classes, and being mixed classes proved very popular and successful.

#### *Youth Organisations—Boys' Clubs.*

Two classes were formed on Wednesday evenings to cater for these Clubs, and it was evident that the leaders appreciated not only the help given, but the opportunity of attending a centre where the facilities were of the best. There are possibilities of further development with this type of youth, but one of the difficulties has been the reluctance of Leaders to go outside their Club rooms for physical exercises. The majority of the clubrooms are totally unfitted for the right type of work, and with more fully equipped gymnasias available in different parts of the City, it is felt that much more will be done for Youth Clubs.

*Evening Institutes.* Physical training formed a part of the course at these Institutes, and four classes were formed at three centres. At the moment these Institutes are held at schools with no fully equipped gymnasias, but small halls with portable apparatus. It is likely that in the near future these centres will have better facilities for this work, which will thus become a popular feature of the centres' activities.



## GIRLS.

### *Swimming.*

An unusually wet and cold summer placed a severe handicap on the teaching of swimming, and it is to the credit of teachers and instructresses that out of 1,644 girls who received instruction, 958 achieved 12 yards or more.

Distance tests and life saving, however, did not fare so well. 1,777 distance-swimming certificates were gained—190 less than the previous season, and 194 girls passed a life-saving test—17 less than in 1937. Twelve school medallions were completed—10 less than in 1937.

### *Dancing.*

The increased number of physical training lessons per week has resulted in the inclusion of a regular dancing lesson in many schools. The dances taught vary in character, but are mainly folk dances.

A Display of Scottish, Scandinavian and Italian folk dances was given by 800 junior children, in connection with the Plymouth Schools' Annual Sports Day.

A Teachers' Course in Dancing was held in the autumn. This was of the "Central European" type of dancing—the first of its kind to be held in Plymouth.

### *Games in Elementary Schools.*

The playing of games in parks and fields is an integral part of the physical training scheme of all schools where facilities are available. Considerable enthusiasm has been shown in senior schools where hockey and tennis are played.

An afternoon's hockey coaching was arranged in February, when a small group of girls from each school where hockey is played were coached, in groups of 22, by Miss K. Doman. The hockey film was shown twice in the evening and attracted large audiences.

A hockey tournament was arranged by the Games League, and every elementary school where hockey is played took part. The standard of play has improved rapidly, and many very promising players are to be seen in the various teams.

Net ball still holds its own as the most generally played game in senior schools. Hockey is played wherever a pitch is available.



A Teachers' Course in Field Games was held in the autumn, but unfortunately the following term was unusually wet and the playing of field games was for the greater part of the term impossible. However, improved weather conditions have made it possible to put into practice subsequently many of the games played at the Course.

#### *"Keep Fit" Classes for Women.*

Eight "Keep Fit" classes for women have been held in four centres. Over 400 enrolled and the attendance has been good. The popularity of this type of physical training is an established fact, and the rapid improvement shown in those who have attended classes for a few weeks shows that the ability to move easily and hold oneself correctly is not a lost art but one which, through lack of knowledge and practice, had been forgotten. The Displays in connection with the Swarthmore Classes attracted good audiences and considerable appreciation.

#### *Plymouth School Girls' Games League.*

The enthusiasm and good spirit shown by members of the League is a matter for gratification. Net ball and square ball continue to be the senior and junior games respectively. After the final matches and presentation of trophies at the end of the season, several hundred girls enjoyed a short programme of country dancing.

#### *Juvenile Organisations.*

The number of juvenile organisations which conduct their own sports meeting and enter for events in the Plymouth Youth Organisations Annual Sports is increasing yearly.

Sixteen organisations held a meeting at the Farley Field last summer, some of which attracted several hundred competitors. Thirty-four organisations competed in the Plymouth Youth Organisation Committee's Annual Sports, when the trophies were presented by the Lord Mayor. Three excellent displays were given on this occasion:—

1. Royal Marine Girls' Ambulance Company—Dancing.
2. 2nd Plymouth Company Boys' Brigade—Physical Training.
3. Junior Instruction Centre Old Boys' Club—Chair Tricks and Vaulting.

### *Aquatic Sports.*

The first Aquatic Sports arranged by the Plymouth Youth Organisations Committee attracted fifteen Organisations. No prizes were given, but winners of events received ribbons, which they wore on their bathing suits. All grades of ability in swimming were catered for, including those who could not swim. The evening was a thoroughly enjoyable one, and this was due in no small measure to the help given by H.M. Navy in carrying out the duties of officials in the swimming baths and organising a humorous display and a trapeze display.

### (11) PROVISION OF MEALS.

In addition to the meals which are provided at the Special and Open Air Schools, the School Children's Fund Scheme provides that necessitous scholars may be supplied with meals.

#### *Milk in Schools Scheme.*

The following are the figures for the 30th September, 1938:—

<i>No. of Children receiving Milk.</i>					Percentage	
School.	Free.	For Payment.	Total.	No. on Roll.	receiving Milk.	
Higher ...	6	916	922	2,625	35	
Central ...	—	489	489	1,377	36	
Elementary ...	90	12,092	12,182	23,844	51	
Specials ...	313	89	402	609	66	
Total ...	409	13,586	13,995	28,455	49	

#### *Free Milk.*

The arrangements for the selection of children for free milk, the supply of free milk as medical treatment under Section 80 of the Education Act, 1921, and the quarterly re-examination of all children receiving free milk, remain the same and are as described in previous Reports.

No meals or milk are supplied by the Authority under Sections 82–84 of the Education Act, 1921.

Numbers receiving free milk from the Authority as medical treatment under Section 80 of the Education Act, 1921, are as follows:—

Number receiving milk on January 1st, 1938 ...	94
„ added to the list during 1938 ...	133
„ removed from the list during 1938 ...	87
„ on list at 31st December, 1938 ...	140

Of the 140 children receiving free milk on December 31st, 1938, 92 were receiving one-third of a pint daily in school and 48 two-thirds of a pint.

#### (12) CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

Teachers again gave invaluable help in the work of medical and dental inspection, helpful information in the work of following up and full co-operation in enabling the children to receive any necessary treatment.

The usual satisfactory co-ordination with the school attendance officers continued as in previous years.

Co-operation with voluntary agencies, such as the Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare, Cripples' Aid Association and the N.S.P.C.C. also continued satisfactorily.

#### (13) BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(a) The methods adopted for ascertaining and dealing with children who are defective within the meaning of Part V of the Education Act, 1921, remained the same and were found to be adequate and satisfactory.

The following are the figures for December 31st, 1938:—

##### *Blind Children.*

12 children were being maintained by the Authority at residential schools for the blind.

##### *Partially Sighted Children.*

2 children were being maintained at residential schools for the partially sighted, 2 were in other institutions, and 1 at no school or institution.

##### *Deaf Children.*

21 children were in attendance at the Authority's Deaf School.

##### *Partially Deaf Children.*

8 children were in attendance at the Authority's Partially Deaf School and 1 at a Public Elementary School.



*Feeble Minded Children.*

292 children were in attendance at the Authority's Special M.D. Schools and 26 at other institutions.

*Epileptic Children.*

1 child was being maintained by the Authority at a residential school for epileptics, and 2 children were at no school or institution.

*Physically Defective Children.*

*A. Tuberculous Children.*

*1. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

1 child was at a special school, 12 at other institutions, and 1 at no school or institution.

*2. Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

12 children were at special schools, 3 at other institutions, and 1 at no school or institution.

*B. Delicate Children.*

299 children were at the Authority's special schools, and 27 at public elementary schools.

*C. Crippled Children.*

13 children were at special schools, 7 at public elementary schools, and 7 at no school or institution.

*D. Heart Diseases.*

1 child was at no school or institution.

*Children with Multiple Defects.*

1 crippled and feeble-minded child was at a special school.

(b) The arrangements made for the supervision of mentally defective children not in special schools remained the same and were also satisfactory.

(c) *Special Schools.*

*Mount Tamar "Open Air" School.*

*Report by the Head Teacher: Mr. W. E. Brockman.*

General working during the year proved difficult owing to inclement weather, illness among the members of the teaching staff, and alterations in the kitchen staff.

A steady flow of pupils was maintained throughout the year. The number of children admitted was 173, and the discharges numbered 156. The average number of pupils on the roll was 159, and the average attendance 126.



Numerous visits were paid by parents to express thanks for, and appreciation of, the benefits derived by their children while in attendance at the school.

Throughout the year the senior girls were cared for by Miss H. Dean, of Johannesburg, South Africa, who exchanged posts with Miss E. Trathen, by arrangement with the governing bodies concerned.

*Efford "Open Air" School.*

*Report by the Head Teacher: Mr. H. R. Frost.*

Ninety-one children have been admitted during the year, and 80 children have been discharged as fit to return to other schools or to go to work. Two children are entered on the registers of the school, but have not made a single attendance for the year.

The average number on the roll is 144·9, and the average attendance has been 121·4, showing a percentage of 84·0 per cent.

Several structural improvements have been effected during the past year.

The most important of these, and one which has been greatly appreciated, is the installation of hot water in the cloakrooms for boys and girls.

Improvements have also been made to the falling shutters of the classrooms. A metal Cobourn track has replaced the former wooden groove on either side of each shutter, as it needed repair, and stranded steel wire has replaced the sashcords in each case. These shutters, which previously have been a constant source of expense and have been very difficult to raise and lower, should now function satisfactorily for many years.

*Salisbury Road Special (M.D.) Boys' School.*

*Report by the Head Teacher: Mr. B. W. Fee.*

*Statistics.*

Number on roll, December, 1937	...	...	...	133
„ admitted during the year	...	...	...	43
„ left	„	„	...	36
„ on roll, December, 1938	...	...	...	140
Average attendance during year	...	...	...	117
„ number on roll	...	...	...	140
Percentage attendance	...	...	...	83·5

*Analysis of Leavers.*

Became over age (16 years)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Exempt for employment (15 +)	...	...	...	...	21
Left the district	...	...	...	...	4
To Residential Institutions	...	...	...	...	5
To Private Schools	...	...	...	...	1
Incapable of receiving further benefit from School	...	...	...	...	4
Found fit to attend ordinary schools	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					36
					==

The Report for 1937 dealt with various phases for the work and organisation of the School and drew attention to some of the difficulties met with during the year. The year 1938 has seen some of these difficulties increase.

There has been no change in the general organisation of classification and curriculum. The present building does not allow for the flexibility necessary for the education of this type. More rooms are needed, rooms divided by walls and not by thin partitions through which all sounds of the class in the next room travel and consequently divert the attention of both teacher and taught.

The beneficial results of our “Exemption Scheme” are now very evident, and a review of the After-Care Reports available is interesting and shows the value of preparing this type of lad for employment and of allowing him to work on probation during his last terms, which previously used to be spent in school. Then, he was plunged into the conditions of the work-a-day world without preparation, and his progress could only be followed with difficulty. Now, by reason of the regular visitations to employers and parents, his progress is noted.—It is very pleasing to report again that all boys called for Final Medical Examination attended. It is also pleasing to record that of the twenty-one cases granted exemption, two only failed and had to return to school. One of these obtained success in another job; the other is still at school.

*Salisbury Road Special (M.D.) Mixed School.*

*Report by the Head Teacher: Miss Ernestine Bird.*

			Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Number on Register	...	...	52	110	162
Number of admissions	...	...	26	21	47
Discharged to ordinary schools	...	...	—	—	—

Transferred to Salisbury Rd. Special	Boys	Girls	Total
Boys' ... ..	23	—	23
Number left ... ..	3	18	21
Average attendance ... ..		116.25	

*Hartley House School for the Deaf.*

*Report by the Head Teacher: Miss Muriel M. Goss.*

No. on Roll on January 11th, 1938	...	...	...	27
No. of girls =	15			
No. of boys =	12			
No. of admissions during the year	...	...	...	4
No. of girls =	1			
No. of boys =	3			
No. of discharges during the year	...	...	...	2
No. of girls =	0			
No. of boys =	2			
No. on Roll on December 22nd, 1938		...	...	29
No. of girls =	16			
No. of boys =	13			
No. of totally deaf girls	...	...	12	
No. of totally deaf boys	...	...	9	
No. of partially deaf girls	...	...	4	
No. of partially deaf boys	...	...	4	
No. of attendances made in 1938	...	...	...	9766
No. of Sessions	...	...	...	402
Average attendance	...	...	...	24

(14) FULL-TIME COURSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR  
BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

During the year eight defective persons have been under full-time courses of Higher Education (Technical Training), i.e.: Blind persons, 6; cripples, 2. No such courses are conducted by the Committee, but the fees of the persons concerned are met by the Committee and maintenance allowances given in cases not undergoing residential training, where necessary. Blind persons usually become employed in the workshops of the South Devon and Cornwall Institution for the Blind on completion of training. Two cripples who have completed their training are employed, one as a book-keeper and one as a boot repairer.



### (15) NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are no nursery schools run by the Authority, although there are nursery classes in a number of schools. The arrangements for medical inspection and treatment are the same as for entrants at the normal age. There is one voluntary nursery school.

### (16) SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

#### (i) *Medical Inspection.*

The general arrangements for medical inspection and treatment remain the same and are as described in previous Reports.

A total of 2,009 children were examined, compared with 2,148 last year.

#### (ii) *Following-up and Medical Treatment.*

The arrangements remain the same and are as described in previous Reports.

### (17) PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

The arrangements for recovering the cost of treatment from parents of children attending public elementary schools, secondary and other schools remained the same.

### (18) HEALTH EDUCATION.

The School Medical Service was not associated with any health teaching specially designed for the school children of the area during this year. No talks were given by members of the Authority's staff, and no arrangements were made through the School Medical Service for visits to places of public health interest, etc.

### (19) SPECIAL ENQUIRIES.

Members of the Medical Staff assisted Dr. Weaver, of the Board of Education, at the beginning of the year, in a review of the dental services, and Drs. Glover and Alford, of the Board of Education, just before Christmas, with an investigation into the nutrition of school children.

### (20) MISCELLANEOUS.

#### *National Health Insurance Act.*

A few requests for information from private practitioners under Section 6 of the National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, which came into force on April 4th, 1938, have been received.



### *School Children's Fund Committee.*

During the year the above Committee has granted boots to 426 children attending schools and paid for 63 repairs, at a total cost of £180 0s. 7½d.

### *Examinations before Camp.*

960 children were examined by the School Medical Officer for freedom from infectious disease, and physical fitness, before proceeding to camp during the year.

### *Juvenile Instruction Centres.*

Both the Boys' and Girls' Junior Instruction Centres have been visited once a month and the pupils medically examined and treatment advised.

### *Remand Home.*

All cases discharged from the Remand Homes to an Approved School were examined at the clinic before admittance to the approved school. Treatment for minor ailments was given at the clinic to any child in the Remand Home when necessary, and arrangements were in force for the treatment of other ailments and emergencies when required, including hospital treatment.

### *Children's Homes.*

The Children's Homes were regularly visited in rotation during the year, a medical officer visiting once a month.

### *Employment of Children.*

*Entertainment Licences.*—29 examinations were carried out during the year, and licences were issued in each case.

# PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE I. RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 1938.

## A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants ... ..	2301
Second Age Group ... ..	2346
Third Age Group ... ..	1668
Total ... ..	6315
Number of other Routine Inspections ... ..	166
Grand Total ... ..	6481

## B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections ... ..	9715
Number of Re-Inspections ... ..	11231
Total ... ..	20946

## C. CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

<i>Group</i> (1)	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i> (2)	<i>For all other conditions recorded in Table IIa</i> (3)	<i>Total</i> (4)
Entrants ... ..	10	480	488
Second Age Group ... ..	240	423	600
Third Age Group ... ..	193	265	366
Total (Prescribed Groups)	443	1168	1454
Other Routine Inspections ... ..	10	15	22
Grand Total ... ..	453	1183	1476

TABLE II.

**A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL  
INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.**

Defect or Disease					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
					No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
					Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	1. Ringworm—Scalp	...	...	...	—	—	37	—
	2. " Body	...	...	...	2	1	64	—
	3. Scabies	...	...	...	6	1	115	—
	4. Impetigo	...	...	...	31	1	320	—
	5. Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...	...	68	35	530	—
Total (Heads 1 to 5)					107	38	1066	—
Eye	6. Blepharitis	...	...	...	38	21	26	—
	7. Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	5	—	49	—
	8. Keratitis	...	...	...	1	—	2	—
	9. Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	2	2	—	1
	10. Other Conditions (Excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	...	...	...	48	32	82	—
Total (Heads 6 to 10)					94	55	159	1
Ear	11. Defective Vision (Excluding Squint)	...	...	...	453	479	194	4
	12. Squint	...	...	...	56	121	59	1
	13. Defective Hearing	...	...	...	25	13	12	1
	14. Otitis Media	...	...	...	55	6	45	—
	15. Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	35	9	180	—
Nose & Throat	16. Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	292	798	382	—
	17. Adenoids only	...	...	...	24	37	4	—
	18. Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	77	49	11	—
	19. Other Conditions	...	...	...	50	145	390	—
	20. Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...	...	28	145	1	—
	21. Defective Speech	...	...	...	8	21	24	—
Heart Disease :								
Heart and Circulation	22. Organic	...	...	...	2	15	2	3
	23. Functional	...	...	...	3	52	4	—
	24. Anæmia	...	...	...	58	39	12	—
Lungs	25. Bronchitis	...	...	...	42	82	80	—
	26. Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	24	45	42	1
	Pulmonary :							
Tuber- culosis	27. Definite	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	28. Suspected	...	...	...	6	5	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary :							
	29. Glands	...	...	...	1	4	—	—
	30. Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	31. Skin	...	...	...	—	4	—	—
	32. Other Forms	...	...	...	—	3	1	—
Total (Heads 29 to 32)					1	11	1	—
Nervous System	33. Epilepsy	...	...	...	—	1	2	—
	34. Chorea	...	...	...	—	2	12	—
	35. Other Conditions	...	...	...	3	18	3	1
Deform- ities	36. Rickets	...	...	...	1	3	—	1
	37. Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	6	—	5	—
	38. Other forms	...	...	...	94	116	55	—
39. Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition Uncleanliness & Dental Diseases)					161	265	3361	6
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS					1705	2570	6106	19

TABLE II.

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR  
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly Sub-Normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	2301	439	19.08	1798	78.14	63	2.74	1	.04
Second Age-Group	2346	342	14.58	1891	80.61	113	4.81	—	—
Third Age-Group	1668	414	24.82	1204	72.18	49	2.94	1	.06
Other Routine Inspections	166	20	12.05	141	84.94	5	3.01	—	—
TOTAL	6481	1215	18.75	5034	77.67	230	3.55	2	.03



TABLE III.  
RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN  
THE AREA.

(YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.)

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
12	—	—	—	12

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
—	2	—	2*	1	5

\* One child Partially Deaf at Deaf School.  
One child Feeble-Minded at Special M.D. School.

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
21	—	—	—	21

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf and Partially Deaf.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
8	1	—	—	9

TABLE III.—(Contd.)

## MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

*Feeble Minded Children.*

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
292	—	26	—	318

## EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

*Children Suffering from Severe Epilepsy.*

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	—	—	2	3

## PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

## A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

1. *Children Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	—	12	1	14

2. *Children Suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
12	—	3	1	16

TABLE III.—(Contd.)

## B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
299	27	—	—	326

## C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
13	7	—	7	27

## D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	1	1

## CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Blindness (excluding partially sighted children).

Deafness (excluding partially deaf children).

Mental Defect (feeble-minded).

Severe Epilepsy.

Active Tuberculosis.

Crippling (as defined in Section C above).

Heart Disease.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
Crippled and Feeble-minded	1	—	—	—	1

TABLE IV.

**RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.**

**Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS** (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI).

<i>Disease or Defect.</i>  (1)	<i>Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i> (2)	<i>Otherwise.</i> (3)	<i>Total.</i> (4)
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp :—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment ...	3	—	3
(ii) Other Treatment ...	24	5	29
Ringworm—Body ... ..	75	5	80
Scabies ... ..	106	13	119
Impetigo ... ..	371	—	371
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	1161	4	1165
Minor Eye Defects— (External and other, but ex- cluding cases falling in Group II.) ... ..	110	7	117
Minor Ear Defects ... ..	237	6	243
Miscellaneous— (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	6851	358	7209
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>8938</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>9336</b>



TABLE IV.—(Contd.)

**Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT**  
(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group 1.)

<i>Disease or Defect.</i>	<i>No. of Defects dealt with</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>	<i>Total</i>
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint) (Operations for Squint should be recorded separately in the body of the School Medical Officer's Report).	2326	84	2410
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those re- corded in Group 1) ...	218	5	223
TOTAL ...	2544	89	2633
No. of Children for whom spectacles were:			
(a) Prescribed ... ..	1050	80	1130
(b) Obtained ... ..	892	238	1130

TABLE IV.—(Contd.)

GROUP III.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.											
Received Operative Treatment.											
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)				Total. (3)			
i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.	iii.	iv.
6	2	218	—	17	2	72	—	23	4	290	—

TABLE IV.—(Contd.)

Group IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i> (1)			<i>Otherwise.</i> (2)			<i>Total number treated.</i>
	<i>Residential treatment with education.</i> (i)	<i>Residential treatment without education.</i> (ii)	<i>Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopædic Clinic.</i> (iii)	<i>Residential treatment with education.</i> (i)	<i>Residential treatment without education.</i> (ii)	<i>Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopædic Clinic.</i> (iii)	
Number of Children treated	36	—	250	—	—	10	260

TABLE V.

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine Age Groups.

Age.	5 & under	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 & over	TOTAL.
Number	1218	840	859	1052	990	1140	858	898	977	853	9685

(b) Specials ... 3,450

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ... 13,135

(2) Number found to require treatment ... 10,758

(3) Number actually treated ... 7,660

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... 16,760

(5) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection ... 143

Treatment ... 1,867 ... 2,010

(6) Fillings—

Permanent Teeth ... 8,114

Temporary Teeth ... 290 ... 8,404

(7) Extractions—

Permanent Teeth ... 3,027

Temporary Teeth ... 12,142 ... 15,169

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions 4,349

(9) Other operations—

Permanent Teeth ... 1,834

Temporary Teeth ... 82 ... 1,916



TABLE VI.

## UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	3.9
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses	...	...	63622
(iii)	Number of <i>individual</i> children found unclean	...		2435
(iv)	Number of <i>individual</i> children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority			211
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—			
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	Nil
	(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws		...	Nil

# HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE VII.

## RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

### A, ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

	<i>Age.</i>									Total.
	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17 &amp; over</i>	<i>Special</i>	
Boys ...	37	107	161	165	210	154	79	50	—	963
Girls ...	58	138	237	206	181	139	53	28	6	1046
Total	95	245	398	371	391	293	132	78	6	2009

### B, NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) 546.

TABLE VIII.

# RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

Defect or Disease					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
					No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
					Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	1. Ringworm, Scalp	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	2. " Body	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
	3. Scabies	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	4. Impetigo	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	5. Other Diseases (non-tuberculous)	...	...	...	40	51	1	—
Total (Heads 1 to 5)					41	51	1	—
Eye	6. Blepharitis	...	...	...	11	5	—	—
	7. Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
	8. Keratitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	9. Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	10. Other Conditions (excluding defective vision and Squint)	...	...	...	10	30	—	—
Total (Heads 6 to 10)					22	36	—	—
Ear	11. Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	...	...	...	188	475	1	—
	12. Squint	...	...	...	2	17	—	—
	13. Defective Hearing	...	...	...	16	14	—	—
	14. Otitis Media	...	...	...	6	1	—	—
	15. Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	13	5	—	—
Nose and Throat	16. Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	24	126	—	—
	17. Adenoids only	...	...	...	2	4	—	—
	18. Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	5	3	—	—
	19. Other Conditions	...	...	...	11	37	—	—
20. Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)					1	18	—	—
21. Defective Speech					1	7	—	—
Heart Disease :								
Heart and Circulation	22. Organic	...	...	...	3	7	—	—
	23. Functional	...	...	...	5	30	—	—
	24. Anæmia	...	...	...	35	27	—	—
Lungs	25. Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	2	—	—
	26. Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	12	14	—	—
	Pulmonary :							
Tuberculosis	27. Definite	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	28. Suspected	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary :							
	29. Glands	...	...	...	—	2	—	—
	30. Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	31. Skin	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
32. Other Forms					—	—	—	—
Total (Heads 29 to 32)					—	2	—	—
Nervous System	33. Epilepsy	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	34. Chorea	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	35. Other Conditions	...	...	...	4	19	—	—
Deformities	36. Rickets	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	37. Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
	38. Other Forms	...	...	...	214	65	—	—
39. Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)					60	90	—	—
TOTAL					668	1051	2	—

TABLE IX.

## DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments).

<i>Defect or Disease.</i>	<i>Number of Defects dealt with.</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	156	47	203
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes ...	—	3	3
TOTAL ...	156	50	206
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were:	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(a) Prescribed ...	144	45	189
(b) Obtained ...	58	131	189



TABLE X.  
TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.									
Received Operative Treatment.									
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)				Total. (3)	
i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.
—	—	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
								9	—
								—	—
								2	11

i. Tonsils only.    ii. Adenoids only.    iii. Tonsils and adenoids.    iv. Other defects of the Nose and Throat.

TABLE XI.

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY (NOTIFICATION OF CHILDREN)  
REGULATIONS, 1928.**

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938, BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION  
AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY.

Total number of Children notified                      ...                      49

*Analysis of the above Total.*

N.B.—No child should be entered in more than one section of this Table.

<i>Diagnosis.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
1. (i) Children incapable of receiving benefit from instruction in a Special School.		
(a) Idiots                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...	1	—
(b) Imbeciles                      ...                      ...                      ...	1	3
(c) Others                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...	6	2
(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children.		
(a) Moral defectives                      ...                      ...	—	—
(b) Others                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...	1	—
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...                      ...	22	13
3. Feeble-minded children notified under Art. 3, i.e., “Special Circumstances” cases                      ... <i>Note.</i> —No child should be notified under Art. 3 until the Board have issued a formal certificate (Form 308 M) to the Authority.	—	—
4. Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf                      ...                      ... <i>Note.</i> —No blind or deaf child should be notified without reference to the Board—see Article 2, proviso (ii).	—	—
GRAND TOTAL                      ...                      ...                      ...	31	18



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